

The 2016 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Summary

By Brian Dhuey and Kevin Wallenfang

2016 Season Highlights

Bow Totals

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	15,254	13,393	0	28,647
Central Forest	1,325	461	0	1,786
Northern Forest	4,509	1,300	0	5,809
Southern Farmland	7,083	4,946	0	12,029
Unknown	1	0	0	1
Total	28,172	20,100	0	48,272

Crossbow Totals

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	12,426	11,224	0	23,650
Central Forest	1,277	504	0	1,781
Northern Forest	5,823	1,697	0	7,520
Southern Farmland	4,033	2,788	0	6,821
Unknown	3	1	0	4
Total	23,562	16,214	0	39,776

Gun Totals

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total ^a
Central Farmland	52,977	77,816	0	130,793
Central Forest	5,350	3,539	0	8,889
Northern Forest	24,997	11,104	0	36,101
Southern Farmland	21,862	31,033	0	52,895
Unknown	0	18	30	48
Total	105,186	123,510	30	228,726

^a Includes damage deer

Tribal Totals

Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
582	886	1	1,469

Abstract

This report summarizes the results of the 2016 Wisconsin bow, crossbow, youth, 9-day gun, muzzleloader, December antlerless and Holiday Hunt antlerless only deer seasons, and Chippewa off-reservation deer harvest. All harvest statistics are from kill registration data. Since 1953, the Department of Natural Resources has required that Wisconsin hunters register all deer harvested. The Bureau of Customer and Outreach Services of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provided permit information. Daniel Storm of the Office of Applied Science summarized data collected from deer aging stations and Brenda Von Rueden of the Bureau of Law Enforcement provided the hunting accident report. The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) provided all Chippewa deer harvest data. This report is possible due to Pittman-Robertson funds.

Registration

The 2016 deer season was the second year of electronic registration of deer kill by all hunters, and the first year of full implementation. A unique 10-digit number was assigned to each carcass tag issued to a hunter, both antlerless and antlered. This tag number is the starting point of all registrations and allows for much of the known information about the animal and location to be filled in automatically. Hunters were still required to register all deer harvested, but no longer required to bring them in person to a registration station. Methods included a phone-in, internet, or “smart phone” option to collect registration data. Over 200 in-person stations still allowed hunters to register deer and provided them with one or more of the methods that were available to do so.

Also new in 2016 were plain paper carcass tags. The hunter could print tags as many times as they pleased, but only one copy of each individual tag could be carried while hunting. Hunters were advised to provide a means of protecting and attaching the tag to the animal, and tagging was not required until the hunter left the animal. They were to validate the tag immediately following recovery by writing the date of kill on the tag. After registration, a confirmation number provided by the department was also to be written on the validated tag.

Season Structure

Since the implementation of the Deer Trustee Report recommendations in 2014, the state has been divided into four deer management zones (DMZ) from north to south and designated as Northern Forest, Central Forest, Central Farmland, and Southern Farmland (Figure 1). Deer management units in these management zones are based on county boundaries inside the zone. Most counties are now their own management unit, though some are split by DMZ boundaries and tribal reservation boundaries were used to develop their own units. Metro areas within these new unit boundaries are now sub-units of the larger county management unit. These sub-units were subject to longer seasons and may have been eligible for additional antlerless permits that were not valid in the rest of the unit.

A continuous bow and crossbow season ran from September through early January. Gun seasons included a statewide youth gun deer season in October, a traditional 9-day gun deer season in November, a 10-day statewide muzzleloader season, a statewide antlerless-only 4-day hunt in mid-December, and in select units an antlerless-only Holiday Hunt starting the day before Christmas.

Permits

All hunters were allowed to harvest one buck statewide per weapon authority purchased. Bow and crossbow hunters that purchased an upgrade authority to use either weapon were only allowed to harvest one buck with either weapon per season.

Farmland (Zone 2) antlerless permit(s) were issued with each weapon authority purchased. These permits allowed the harvest of antlerless deer in any unit in the farmland DMZs. At the time of issuance the license purchaser had to declare a farmland DMZ, unit, and landownership type (public access or private) for which they wanted the tag to be valid. The number of permits available for counties in the farmland zones ranged from 0 to 3, depending on the county. Additional antlerless permits could be purchased for both the farmland and forested DMZs. These permits were sold over-the-counter on a first-come, first-served basis at a cost of \$12 each. The purchaser had to designate the zone, unit and land type (private or public access) for which they were purchasing the permit. Permits available were limited in many zones, units, and land types, with many units in the Northern Forest DMZ and some in the Central Forest DMZ having no antlerless permits available (Tables 1&2). Deer hunters who were hunting under a youth license were issued an additional antlerless tag with each license purchased that allowed the harvest of an antlerless deer in most units, even if the unit had no antlerless tags available to the non-youth hunting public. County Deer Advisory Councils could recommend that even these youth antlerless tags not be valid in the unit; Ashland, Forest, and Sawyer counties did not allow the harvest of antlerless deer on a statewide youth antlerless tag in 2016.

Select metro sub-units had additional tags available both as free metro sub-unit tags and as bonus (\$12/tag) tags. These tags were valid only in the portion of the unit that was defined as the metro sub-unit and were valid during any open metro season. One of these metro sub-units (Superior in Douglas County) had antlerless permits available, even though the unit overall was a "Buck Only" unit.

Bow/Crossbow Season

The bow and crossbow seasons were held from 17 September - 8 January, 114 consecutive days of hunting. As had begun in 2014, crossbows were legal for all ages of hunters, but required a separate license. Prior to 2014 only hunters who could document a disability or were 65 years or older were eligible to use a crossbow. Hunters were allowed to use both vertical bows and crossbows during the season if they purchased an "upgrade" license for \$3. They were still limited to one buck per hunter regardless of weapon type used to harvest it. Bow and crossbow seasons remained open during all concurrent firearm hunts, and all hunters, regardless of weapon being used, were required to wear blaze orange clothing during any open firearm deer season and were restricted to the same deer type as firearm hunters.

In most management units, bow and crossbow hunters were allowed to harvest one antlered and multiple antlerless deer during the season. As in recent years, bow and crossbow hunters were restricted to "Bucks Only" in units that restricted gun hunters to "Bucks Only" as well. Bow and crossbow hunters were allowed to harvest additional antlerless deer using free Farmland (Zone 2) antlerless deer permit(s), or purchased additional antlerless deer permits in units that allowed the taking of extra antlerless deer.

Six metropolitan sub-units were designated in the state that allowed bow and crossbow hunters additional opportunity to kill deer by keeping the season open until 31 January. Hunters in most sub-units used the same Farmland Zone or bonus antlerless permits that were available in the

larger deer management unit. Like gun hunters, bow and crossbow hunters could purchase additional antlerless permits throughout the season or until all were sold.

Wisconsin bowhunters killed 48,272 deer in 2016. Crossbow hunters killed 39,776 deer. The combined harvest was 88,048; this is up from the combined harvest of 87,098 killed in 2015. Above normal amounts of precipitation and temperatures greeted hunters during the first month of the season. October and November brought more above average temperatures but drier than normal precipitation. December returned to normal for temperatures and precipitation. Weather events during the rut were fairly limited, but temperatures during late October and first week of November were above average, and may have affected rutting activity leading to reduced deer movement. Bow and crossbow hunter pressure is at its highest during the rut and many successful hunts occurred during this period. Overall, weather conditions for hunting were quite good throughout most of the season for bow and crossbow hunters and should have not adversely affected success. A summary of the bow and crossbow deer harvest by deer management unit is contained in Figures 6-9 and Tables 13-16.

Firearm Seasons

October

A statewide youth deer hunt was held on the 8-9th of October. All persons from 10-15 years of age were eligible to hunt. Mentored hunting was introduced to the state in 2009; this allowed anyone age 10 or older to hunt without a Hunter's Education certification as long as they hunted with an 18-year-old or older mentor. All youth who were mentored or possessed a Hunter's Education certification card and a gun deer license were eligible to hunt. The bag limit was one buck and additional antlerless deer with the appropriate carcass tag(s). All youth deer license holders were issued a free antlerless permit, which were valid in most units, even in "Buck Only" units. Three units restricted the use of youth antlerless tags, Ashland, Forest, and Sawyer, and youth were only allowed to harvest an antlered deer. A total of 8,826 deer were killed by youth during these two days (Table 7 and Figure 4). A special gun hunt for disabled hunters was held on sponsor landowners' properties; a deer of either sex was legal from 1-9 October.

November

Wisconsin held the 2016 regular 9-day firearm deer season during 19-27 November. Rifles were allowed in most of the state, but local governments could restrict their discharge in their jurisdictions. Firearm license holders were issued one antlered deer tag valid statewide and 0-3 antlerless deer tag(s) that was restricted for use in the Farmland DMZ deer unit and land type of their choice (public and private). Many units in all DMZs offered additional antlerless tags that were specific to land type and were sold for \$12 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Gun hunters in all of the state were greeted with normal temperatures and very high winds—gusts in excess of 40mph—for all of opening day. Only the northern tier of counties had snow on the ground for opening day, as much of the rest of the state was snowless, with only a few pockets of snowcover in other locations. High winds made for difficult conditions for hunters to hear and see deer. Many hunters reported not hunting from elevated stands for fear of falling or falling trees. Sunday morning's weather saw normal temperatures and much reduced wind gusts which made for more huntable conditions. Temperatures stayed about average during much of the remaining part of the week with snow arriving in the northern third of the state during mid-week. Generally, temperatures were average to above average with no major precipitation events occurring during the 9-day hunting season. The statewide corn harvest was much above average in most of the state with all parts of the state having little standing corn during the season. Frozen ground with snow cover for much of the gun season in the north,

and may have helped hunters in accessing remote hunting areas and wetlands. Sales of gun deer licenses in 2016 were down from the previous year. Overall hunting conditions ranked a qualitative 6 on a scale of 1 to 10. This is in comparison to a 7 in 2015.

Starting in 2009, deer hunters were asked at the time of registration to rate the weather conditions, deer seen, and hours hunted on the day they killed their deer. Hunters rated the weather on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being the worst. Mean weather ranking for the opening day of the 9-day gun season was 4.4, lower than last year's 4.7, only slightly higher than the worst ranking of 4.2 of 2013. Prior years have varied from 4 to 7 with 6.5 in 2014, 4.2 in 2013, 7.1 in 2012, 6.0 in 2011, 6.6 in 2010, and 6.1 in 2009; all years were different at the $p < 0.05$ level. The weather ranking for the rest of the season was 7.1, higher than the 5.1 in 2015, the 6.0 in 2014, 6.2 in 2013, 6.7 in 2012, 6.6 in 2011, 5.6 in 2010 and 6.2 in 2009; all years were different at the $p \leq 0.05$ level.

The number of deer seen per hour hunted for opening day was 1.16. This was similar to last year's 1.18, but significantly ($p \leq .05$) higher than the 1.10 in 2014, 1.09 in 2013, 1.02 in 2012, 0.96 in 2011, 1.08 in 2010, and 0.79 in 2009. Deer seen per hour for the rest of the 9-day season was 1.15 in 2016, less than the 1.18 in 2015. This is in comparison to the 1.20 in 2014, 1.08 in 2013, 1.02 in 2012, 0.96 in 2011, 1.03 in 2010 and 0.80 in 2009; all years were different ($p \leq .05$). Please note that these rankings are for successful hunters only, and are probably biased by that fact.

Metro deer sub-units' gun deer season opened on 19 November and was open for 21 days (running through 7 December). The bag limit was one antlered deer for the length of the season. Additional antlerless deer tags were available for purchase that allowed hunters to bag additional antlerless deer.

December

All DMZs in the state were open for muzzleloader-only hunting from 28 November - 7 December. Any unused carcass tag, both antlered and antlerless, could be used during this time. Only hunters possessing or accompanying someone with an unused carcass tag could take part in the muzzleloader season. Muzzleloaders were allowed to have scopes with a magnification of greater than 1X, which became legal prior to the 2010 muzzleloader season.

Wisconsin held a statewide antlerless-only gun season from 8-11 December. All hunters with an unfilled antlerless deer tag could take part in the season. This season allowed hunters who were unable to fill their antlerless tags during the 9-day and muzzleloader seasons another chance to kill an antlerless deer.

County Deer Advisory Councils had the ability to recommend a Holiday Hunt on a unit-by-unit basis in 2016. Thirteen councils recommended a Holiday Hunt. These units were in the Central and Southern Farmland DMZs. The season was for antlerless deer only and was held from 24 December through 1 January.

Hunting conditions for the December seasons were mostly favorable. Most of December had average to above temperatures with most of the state receiving some snowfall during the first week of December. This should have made for good hunting conditions with normal temperatures for comfortable sitting and snow depths not hindering hunter access but making deer more visible.

Hunters killed the 25th highest kill total in the last 83 years (316,744; 1st 2000 = 615,293, 2nd 2007 = 518,573) during the bow, crossbow, youth, 9-day, muzzleloader, and December and Holiday Hunt antlerless seasons combined. Only once in the past 25 years has the total deer harvest for Wisconsin fallen below 300,000 (1993). A summary of youth, 9-day, muzzleloader, December antlerless, and holiday deer harvest by deer management unit is contained in Table 5-7, and Figures 2-4, respectively.

Agricultural Damage Shooting Program

Wisconsin's agricultural damage deer shooting program was in effect for 2016. In 2016, the department issued 506 agriculture damage deer shooting permits in 64 counties. The number of deer shooting permits issued in 2016 decreased from 2015 when 542 permits were issued in 64 counties. There are two types of deer shooting permits agriculture producers can choose from: permits that require the producer to allow public hunting access during the state deer hunting season, under this option producers are eligible for deer damage compensations; and permits that do not require the producer to allow public hunting access but producers are not eligible for deer damage compensation. Of the two permits types, 226 deer shooting permits were issued where public deer hunting access was required on property the producer owns or leases and 280 deer shooting permits were issued where public hunting access was not required on the property the producer owns or leases.

The number of shooting permits issued each year for the last 10 years are as follows:

2007 - 698 permits in 62 counties	2012 - 521 permits in 67 counties
2008 - 713 permits in 66 counties	2013 - 618 permits in 65 counties
2009 - 611 permits in 66 counties	2014 - 617 Permits in 67 counties
2010 - 501 permits in 62 counties	2015 - 542 Permits in 64 counties
2011 - 484 permits in 64 counties	2016 – 506 Permits in 64 counties

Damage permits were primarily valid for harvesting antlerless deer using a gun (occasional exceptions are made to harvest antlered deer or to use archery equipment for harvest). A total of 4,134 deer were harvested under authority of this program; nearly all (3,959) were antlerless. Data from past years has shown that less than 5% of the damage deer are killed with archery tackle. Because of this, all damage deer are assumed to be killed by gun hunters and are in the 9-day harvest totals. Tables 9 & 10 summarize deer harvest in the agricultural damage shooting program.

Chippewa Deer Harvest

Deer hunting in the off-reservation portions of the ceded territory by the tribes of the Lake Superior Chippewa took place from 1 September to 31 December. The Tribes harvested 1,469 deer in 2016. Tribal totals are not included in the statewide gun harvest totals in this report, but used in calculating population estimates for each of the units that have tribal harvest. The total Tribal deer harvest by year is in Table 11. A summary of the 2016 Tribal deer harvest by management unit is contained in Table 12. Other off-reservation treaty harvest information can be obtained by contacting the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

CWD Harvest

With the Deer Trustee Report implementation, the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) management zone has been eliminated and is now referred to as CWD-affected areas. These boundaries match the counties that prohibit baiting and feeding (43 counties in 2016). A county is included if a wild or captive animal has been tested and confirmed to be positive for CWD in the county or if a portion of the county that is within a 10-mile radius of where the animal that had been tested and confirmed to be positive for CWD.

Special seasons or extensions of seasons no longer exist as had in the past. Season length and bagging rates were similar to the rest of the state. The “bonus buck” provision that had allowed the taking of additional antlered deer if an antlerless deer was killed first was discontinued in 2015, with all prior issued bonus buck stickers expiring on 31 March 2015.

Table 1. Farmland and bonus antlerless permit availability, issuance, harvest, and success by deer management zone, unit and landtype for 2016.

Deer Management Zone	County	Land Type	Antlerless Deer							
			Farmland Tags available per License	Farmland Tags Issued	Antlerless Tagged with Farmland Tag	Farmland Tag Success	Bonus Antlerless Tags Available	Bonus Antlerless Tags Issued	Antlerless Deer Tagged with Bonus Tag	Bonus Tag Success
Central Farmland	Adams	Public	1/License	2,000	149	7.5%	50	50	4	8.0%
Central Farmland	Adams	Private	1/License	6,249	691	11.1%	1,800	659	120	18.2%
Central Farmland	Barron	Public	None				550	551	159	28.9%
Central Farmland	Barron	Private	None				4,950	4,952	1509	30.5%
Central Farmland	Brown	Public	1/License	1,695	129	7.6%	225	225	34	15.1%
Central Farmland	Brown	Private	1/License	7,720	987	12.8%	875	521	99	19.0%
Central Farmland	Buffalo	Public	2/License	1,803	156	8.7%	500	212	19	9.0%
Central Farmland	Buffalo	Private	2/License	23,985	3,572	14.9%	3,000	955	248	26.0%
Central Farmland	Calumet	Public	1/License	1,085	120	11.1%	100	100	18	18.0%
Central Farmland	Calumet	Private	1/License	3,549	480	13.5%	400	352	73	20.7%
Central Farmland	Chippewa	Public	None							
Central Farmland	Chippewa	Private	None				2,500	2,500	874	35.0%
Central Farmland	Clark	Public	1/License	3,246	297	9.1%	25	25	8	32.0%
Central Farmland	Clark	Private	1/License	12,898	2,153	16.7%	825	825	212	25.7%
Central Farmland	Door	Public	3/License	4,483	313	7.0%	500	124	10	8.1%
Central Farmland	Door	Private	3/License	22,450	1,884	8.4%	1,500	310	46	14.8%
Central Farmland	Dunn	Public	1/License	3,509	498	14.2%	400	402	93	23.1%
Central Farmland	Dunn	Private	1/License	14,517	2,784	19.2%	2,100	1,980	567	28.6%
Central Farmland	Eau Claire	Public	1/License	3,360	287	8.5%	50	50	5	10.0%
Central Farmland	Eau Claire	Private	1/License	8,695	1,224	14.1%	800	801	171	21.3%
Central Farmland	Fond Du Lac	Public	1/License	4,240	381	9.0%	450	452	55	12.2%
Central Farmland	Fond Du Lac	Private	1/License	9,652	1,395	14.5%	2,800	947	197	20.8%
Central Farmland	Green Lake	Public	2/License	2,831	191	6.7%	750	300	43	14.3%
Central Farmland	Green Lake	Private	2/License	13,498	2,062	15.3%	2,000	447	130	29.1%
Central Farmland	Jackson	Public	1/License	2,558	181	7.1%				
Central Farmland	Jackson	Private	1/License	10,235	1,595	15.6%	1,100	1,101	250	22.7%
Central Farmland	Juneau	Public	1/License	1,595	104	6.5%	25	24	7	29.2%
Central Farmland	Juneau	Private	1/License	7,909	1,063	13.4%	1,050	888	156	17.6%
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	Public	3/License	2,755	148	5.4%	300	62	8	12.9%
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	Private	3/License	19,554	1,760	9.0%	1,100	156	21	13.5%
Central Farmland	La Crosse	Public	1/License	1,062	91	8.6%	150	150	20	13.3%
Central Farmland	La Crosse	Private	1/License	7,974	1,294	16.2%	850	746	176	23.6%
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	Public	2/License	4,339	273	6.3%	300	186	32	17.2%
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	Private	2/License	19,857	1,966	9.9%	2,000	377	64	17.0%
Central Farmland	Marathon	Public	1/License	7,619	846	11.1%				
Central Farmland	Marathon	Private	1/License	27,645	4,486	16.2%	3,500	2,420	594	24.5%
Central Farmland	Marinette	Public	1/License	4,353	345	7.9%	175	174	41	23.6%
Central Farmland	Marinette	Private	1/License	12,077	1,574	13.0%	2,050	1,196	253	21.2%
Central Farmland	Marquette	Public	2/License	4,500	369	8.2%	2,000	425	44	10.4%
Central Farmland	Marquette	Private	2/License	22,989	3,025	13.2%	8,000	703	163	23.2%
Central Farmland	Mccoy	Public	1/License							
Central Farmland	Mccoy	Private	1/License							
Central Farmland	Monroe	Public	1/License	3,008	341	11.3%	400	399	54	13.5%
Central Farmland	Monroe	Private	1/License	12,842	2,417	18.8%	1,350	1,325	363	27.4%
Central Farmland	Oconto	Public	1/License	5,321	419	7.9%	200	200	36	18.0%
Central Farmland	Oconto	Private	1/License	13,996	1,934	13.8%	2,075	1,203	244	20.3%

Table 1. Farmland and bonus antlerless permit availability, issuance, harvest, and success by deer management zone, unit and landtype for 2016.

Deer Management Zone	County	Land Type	Antlerless Deer							
			Farmland Tags available per License	Farmland Tags Issued	Antlerless Deer Tagged with Farmland Tag	Farmland Tag Success	Bonus Antlerless Tags Available	Bonus Antlerless Tags Issued	Antlerless Deer Tagged with Bonus Tag	Bonus Tag Success
Central Farmland	Outagamie	Public	1/License	2,211	183	8.3%	500	334	37	11.1%
Central Farmland	Outagamie	Private	1/License	10,322	1,527	14.8%	1,000	767	213	27.8%
Central Farmland	Pepin	Public	2/License	1,255	167	13.3%	75	75	14	18.7%
Central Farmland	Pepin	Private	2/License	7,350	1,325	18.0%	925	333	79	23.7%
Central Farmland	Pierce	Public	1/License	916	128	14.0%	400	271	53	19.6%
Central Farmland	Pierce	Private	1/License	8,565	1,649	19.3%	2,200	1,269	328	25.8%
Central Farmland	Polk	Public	1/License	5,658	850	15.0%	400	400	118	29.5%
Central Farmland	Polk	Private	1/License	16,360	3,093	18.9%	3,100	2,513	683	27.2%
Central Farmland	Portage	Public	1/License	3,027	375	12.4%	275	275	41	14.9%
Central Farmland	Portage	Private	1/License	13,193	2,230	16.9%	2,000	1,387	295	21.3%
Central Farmland	St. Croix	Public	1/License	2,194	188	8.6%	200	200	41	20.5%
Central Farmland	St. Croix	Private	1/License	8,804	1,172	13.3%	1,400	962	226	23.5%
Central Farmland	Shawano	Public	3/License	11,161	547	4.9%	750	321	32	10.0%
Central Farmland	Shawano	Private	3/License	62,364	5,342	8.6%	3,450	685	114	16.6%
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	Public	1/License	4,185	327	7.8%	125	125	20	16.0%
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	Private	1/License	6,725	789	11.7%	1,175	878	175	19.9%
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	Public	1/License	1,451	234	16.1%				
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	Private	1/License	12,969	2,841	21.9%	500	500	208	41.6%
Central Farmland	Waupaca	Public	3/License	9,010	497	5.5%	300	300	28	9.3%
Central Farmland	Waupaca	Private	3/License	68,727	6,646	9.7%	7,200	660	118	17.9%
Central Farmland	Waushara	Public	1/License	3,119	337	10.8%	600	578	64	11.1%
Central Farmland	Waushara	Private	1/License	13,972	1,984	14.2%	1,200	1,174	239	20.4%
Central Farmland	Winnebago	Public	1/License	1,558	111	7.1%	125	125	9	7.2%
Central Farmland	Winnebago	Private	1/License	5,920	746	12.6%	375	376	73	19.4%
Central Farmland	Wood	Public	1/License	2,598	220	8.5%				
Central Farmland	Wood	Private	1/License	9,666	1,502	15.5%	500	500	139	27.8%
Central Farmland Total				636,934	78,995		82,550	44,483	10,567	
Central Forest	Adams	Public	None				850	850	161	18.9%
Central Forest	Adams	Private	None				5,150	5,150	1298	25.2%
Central Forest	Clark	Public	None				775	776	197	25.4%
Central Forest	Clark	Private	None				1,800	1,799	644	35.8%
Central Forest	Eau Claire	Public	None				250	249	72	28.9%
Central Forest	Eau Claire	Private	None				1,275	1,275	323	25.3%
Central Forest	Jackson	Public	None							
Central Forest	Jackson	Private	None							
Central Forest	Juneau	Public	None							
Central Forest	Juneau	Private	None				1,000	999	273	27.3%
Central Forest	Monroe	Public	None							
Central Forest	Monroe	Private	None				100	100	43	43.0%
Central Forest	Wood	Public	None				50	50	19	38.0%
Central Forest	Wood	Private	None				150	150	57	38.0%
Central Forest Total							11,400	11,398	3,087	
Northern Forest	Ashland	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Ashland	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Apostle Islands	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Apostle Islands	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Bad River	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Bad River	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Madeline Island	Public	None				50	50	14	28.0%
Northern Forest	Madeline Island	Private	None				175	68	22	32.4%
Northern Forest	Bayfield	Public	None							

Table 1. Farmland and bonus antlerless permit availability, issuance, harvest, and success by deer management zone, unit and landtype for 2016.

Deer Management Zone	County	Land Type	Farmland Tags available per License	Farmland Tags Issued	Antlerless Deer Tagged with Farmland Tag	Farmland Tag Success	Bonus Antlerless Tags Available	Bonus Antlerless Tags Issued	Antlerless Deer Tagged with Bonus Tag	Bonus Tag Success
Northern Forest	Bayfield	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Burnett	Public	None				475	476	167	35.1%
Northern Forest	Burnett	Private	None				3,800	3,801	1368	36.0%
Northern Forest	Douglas	Public	None				150	150	40	26.7%
Northern Forest	Douglas	Private	None				50	50	16	32.0%
Northern Forest	Florence	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Florence	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Forest	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Forest	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Iron	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Iron	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Lac Corte Oreilles	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Lac Corte Oreilles	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Lac Du Flambeau	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Lac Du Flambeau	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Langlade	Public	None				300	301	124	41.2%
Northern Forest	Langlade	Private	None				800	802	347	43.3%
Northern Forest	Lincoln	Public	None				200	200	81	40.5%
Northern Forest	Lincoln	Private	None				800	800	332	41.5%
Northern Forest	Marinette	Public	None				175	176	58	33.0%
Northern Forest	Marinette	Private	None				700	701	293	41.8%
Northern Forest	Menominee	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Menominee	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Oconto	Public	None				175	175	49	28.0%
Northern Forest	Oconto	Private	None				375	375	108	28.8%
Northern Forest	Oneida	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Oneida	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Price	Public	None				350	351	138	39.3%
Northern Forest	Price	Private	None				900	901	384	42.6%
Northern Forest	Red Cliff	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Red Cliff	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Rusk	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Rusk	Private	None				1,225	1,227	543	44.3%
Northern Forest	Sawyer	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Sawyer	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Taylor	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Taylor	Private	None				3,875	3,881	1517	39.1%
Northern Forest	Vilas	Public	None							
Northern Forest	Vilas	Private	None							
Northern Forest	Washburn	Public	None				2,175	2,175	610	28.0%
Northern Forest	Washburn	Private	None				8,675	5,477	1626	29.7%
Northern Forest Totals							25,425	22,137	7,837	
Southern Farmland	Columbia	Public	1/License	2,602	270	10.4%	1,000	710	85	12.0%
Southern Farmland	Columbia	Private	1/License	11,559	2,003	17.3%	2,000	1,191	321	27.0%
Southern Farmland	Crawford	Public	2/License	2,996	273	9.1%				
Southern Farmland	Crawford	Private	2/License	17,010	2,119	12.5%	3,500	589	116	19.7%
Southern Farmland	Dane	Public	1/License	2,401	185	7.7%	700	594	59	9.9%
Southern Farmland	Dane	Private	1/License	9,940	1,439	14.5%	2,500	1,209	247	20.4%
Southern Farmland	Dodge	Public	1/License	2,912	253	8.7%	125	124	20	16.1%
Southern Farmland	Dodge	Private	1/License	10,360	1,590	15.3%	1,325	1,297	288	22.2%
Southern Farmland	Grant	Public	2/License	3,050	266	8.7%	250	212	36	17.0%

Table 1. Farmland and bonus antlerless permit availability, issuance, harvest, and success by deer management zone, unit and landtype for 2016.

Deer Management Zone	County	Land Type	Antlerless Deer							
			Farmland Tags available per License	Farmland Tags Issued	Antlerless Deer Tagged with Farmland Tag	Farmland Tag Success	Bonus Antlerless Tags Available	Bonus Antlerless Tags Issued	Antlerless Deer Tagged with Bonus Tag	Bonus Tag Success
Southern Farmland	Grant	Private	2/License	23,748	3,002	12.6%	3,000	762	156	20.5%
Southern Farmland	Green	Public	1/License	753	67	8.9%	250	226	27	11.9%
Southern Farmland	Green	Private	1/License	5,105	875	17.1%	1,750	715	181	25.3%
Southern Farmland	Iowa	Public	1/License	1,384	186	13.4%	450	451	57	12.6%
Southern Farmland	Iowa	Private	1/License	9,218	1,576	17.1%	3,000	1,196	357	29.8%
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	Public	1/License	2,492	192	7.7%	75	76	12	15.8%
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	Private	1/License	6,839	987	14.4%	950	950	164	17.3%
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	Public	1/License	997	30	3.0%				
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	Private	1/License	1,825	131	7.2%				
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	Public	1/License	668	76	11.4%	75	75	16	21.3%
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	Private	1/License	4,757	935	19.7%	1,125	736	207	28.1%
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	Public	2/License	154	5	3.2%	75	35	0	0.0%
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	Private	2/License	892	70	7.8%	600	98	16	16.3%
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	Public	1/License	685	52	7.6%	250	231	12	5.2%
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	Private	1/License	3,159	409	12.9%	750	468	98	20.9%
Southern Farmland	Racine	Public	1/License	961	32	3.3%				
Southern Farmland	Racine	Private	1/License	2,587	178	6.9%				
Southern Farmland	Richland	Public	2/License	1,872	162	8.7%	500	188	17	9.0%
Southern Farmland	Richland	Private	2/License	20,640	2,563	12.4%	5,000	673	161	23.9%
Southern Farmland	Rock	Public	1/License	1,656	109	6.6%	400	400	29	7.3%
Southern Farmland	Rock	Private	1/License	5,722	661	11.6%	1,500	768	128	16.7%
Southern Farmland	Sauk	Public	2/License	5,436	404	7.4%	750	468	47	10.0%
Southern Farmland	Sauk	Private	2/License	25,866	3,304	12.8%	3,200	795	201	25.3%
Southern Farmland	Vernon	Public	2/License	3,960	389	9.8%	100	101	16	15.8%
Southern Farmland	Vernon	Private	2/License	25,788	3,427	13.3%	1,000	835	156	18.7%
Southern Farmland	Walworth	Public	1/License	2,123	108	5.1%	150	150	16	10.7%
Southern Farmland	Walworth	Private	1/License	3,753	340	9.1%	375	375	55	14.7%
Southern Farmland	Washington	Public	1/License	2,981	193	6.5%	400	399	37	9.3%
Southern Farmland	Washington	Private	1/License	7,770	983	12.7%	1,350	980	181	18.5%
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	Public	1/License	3,219	137	4.3%	500	499	37	7.4%
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	Private	1/License	5,695	623	10.9%	1,500	970	170	17.5%
Southern Farmland Total				245,535	30,605		40,475	19,546	3,726	

Table 2. Antlerless deer quota, permits available, permits issued, harvest, and percent of quota killed by Deer Management Zone and Unit for the 2016 season.

Deer Management Zone	County	Antlerless Quota	Bonus Permits Available	(Bonus+Farmland) Permits Issued	Antlerless Harvest	% of Quota
Central Farmland	Adams	1,525	1,850	8,958	1,056	69.25%
Central Farmland	Barron	2,190	5,500	5,503	2,171	99.13%
Central Farmland	Brown	3,000	1,100	10,162	1,558	51.93%
Central Farmland	Buffalo	9,000	3,500	26,955	4,352	48.36%
Central Farmland	Calumet	1,480	500	5,086	778	52.57%
Central Farmland	Chippewa	1,000	2,500	2,500	1,412	141.20%
Central Farmland	Clark	1,800	2,575	16,994	2,982	165.67%
Central Farmland	Door	6,250	2,000	27,367	2,428	38.85%
Central Farmland	Dunn	7,200	2,500	20,408	4,362	60.58%
Central Farmland	Eau Claire	1,300	850	12,906	1,834	141.08%
Central Farmland	Fond Du Lac	2,500	3,250	15,291	2,275	91.00%
Central Farmland	Green Lake	4,800	2,750	17,076	2,839	59.15%
Central Farmland	Jackson	2,550	1,100	13,894	2,325	91.18%
Central Farmland	Juneau	1,800	1,075	10,416	1,457	80.94%
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	4,750	1,400	22,527	2,081	43.81%
Central Farmland	La Crosse	3,120	1,000	9,933	2,169	69.52%
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	5,000	2,300	24,759	2,524	50.48%
Central Farmland	Marathon	6,500	3,500	37,685	6,699	103.06%
Central Farmland	Marinette	2,000	2,225	17,800	2,612	130.60%
Central Farmland	Marquette	11,000	10,000	28,617	3,926	35.69%
Central Farmland	Monroe	5,000	1,750	17,574	3,558	71.16%
Central Farmland	Oconto	5,500	2,275	20,720	2,963	53.87%
Central Farmland	Outagamie	5,810	1,500	13,634	2,367	40.74%
Central Farmland	Pepin	2,500	1,000	9,013	1,698	67.92%
Central Farmland	Pierce	4,400	2,600	11,021	2,578	58.59%
Central Farmland	Polk	7,000	3,500	24,931	5,322	76.03%
Central Farmland	Portage	4,890	2,275	17,882	3,378	69.08%
Central Farmland	Shawano	17,000	4,200	12,160	2,231	13.12%
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	2,205	1,300	74,531	6,560	297.51%
Central Farmland	St Croix	3,000	1,600	11,913	1,737	57.90%
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	4,000	500	14,920	3,792	94.80%
Central Farmland	Waupaca	14,200	7,500	78,697	7,892	55.58%
Central Farmland	Waushara	4,400	1,800	18,843	2,959	67.25%
Central Farmland	Winnebago	1,300	500	7,979	1,086	83.54%
Central Farmland	Wood	1,200	500	12,764	2,209	184.08%
Central Forest	Adams	3,000	6,000	6,000	1,818	60.60%
Central Forest	Clark	1,000	2,575	2,575	1,234	123.40%
Central Forest	Eau Claire	625	1,525	1,524	476	76.16%
Central Forest	Jackson	0	0	0	124	N/A
Central Forest	Juneau	510	1,000	999	486	95.29%
Central Forest	Monroe	150	100	100	118	78.67%
Central Forest	Wood	100	200	200	248	248.00%
Northern Forest	Ashland	0	0	0	17	N/A
Northern Forest	Bayfield	0	0	0	356	N/A
Northern Forest	Burnett	2,000	4,275	4,277	1,995	99.75%
Northern Forest	Douglas	0	200	200	550	N/A
Northern Forest	Florence	0	0	0	353	N/A
Northern Forest	Forest	0	0	0	43	N/A
Northern Forest	Iron	0	0	0	61	N/A

Table 2. Antlerless deer quota, permits available, permits issued, harvest, and percent of quota killed by Deer Management Zone and Unit for the 2016 season.

Deer Management Zone	County	Antlerless Quota	Bonus Permits Available	(Bonus+Farmland) Permits Issued	Antlerless Harvest	% of Quota
Northern Forest	Langlade	440	1,100	1,103	922	209.55%
Northern Forest	Lincoln	400	1,000	1,000	845	211.25%
Northern Forest	Marinette	350	875	877	868	248.00%
Northern Forest	Menominee	0	0	0	1	N/A
Northern Forest	Oconto	225	550	550	310	137.78%
Northern Forest	Oneida	0	0	0	388	N/A
Northern Forest	Price	500	1,250	1,252	941	188.20%
Northern Forest	Rusk	550	1,225	1,227	1,148	208.73%
Northern Forest	Sawyer	0	0	0	56	N/A
Northern Forest	Taylor	1,550	3,875	3,881	2,283	147.29%
Northern Forest	Vilas	0	0	0	271	N/A
Northern Forest	Washburn	4,340	10,850	7,652	2,652	61.11%
Southern Farmland	Columbia	8,800	3,000	16,062	3,157	35.88%
Southern Farmland	Crawford	5,000	3,500	20,596	2,755	55.10%
Southern Farmland	Dane	5,090	3,200	14,144	2,198	43.18%
Southern Farmland	Dodge	2,725	1,450	14,693	2,395	87.89%
Southern Farmland	Grant	7,000	3,250	27,772	3,937	56.24%
Southern Farmland	Green	2,000	2,000	6,799	1,291	64.55%
Southern Farmland	Iowa	4,025	3,450	12,249	2,601	64.62%
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	1,350	1,025	10,357	1,491	110.44%
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	170	0	2,822	176	103.53%
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	2,000	1,200	6,236	1,429	71.45%
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	400	675	1,179	137	34.25%
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	1,530	1,000	4,543	641	41.90%
Southern Farmland	Racine	225	0	3,548	227	100.89%
Southern Farmland	Richland	14,000	5,500	23,373	3,244	23.17%
Southern Farmland	Rock	1,110	1,900	8,546	1,008	90.81%
Southern Farmland	Sauk	11,500	3,950	32,565	4,367	37.97%
Southern Farmland	Vernon	7,700	1,100	30,684	4,385	56.95%
Southern Farmland	Walworth	580	525	6,401	584	100.69%
Southern Farmland	Washington	2,850	1,750	12,130	1,576	55.30%
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	1,740	1,800	10,383	1,168	67.13%

Table 3. *Nine-day gun season opening day deer hunting pressure expressed as hunters per square mile of deer range, with current deer range densities 2014-16.*

Deer Management Zone	County	Deer Range	2014 ^a	2015 ^a	2016 ^a
Central Farmland	Adams	72.07	31.4	25.1	19.0
Central Farmland	Barron	530.99	14.2	18	12.3
Central Farmland	Brown	113.47	37.3	34.1	23.2
Central Farmland	Buffalo	559.95	15.4	18.2	11.6
Central Farmland	Calumet	68.6	33	58.3	33.7
Central Farmland	Chippewa	665.88	10	15.1	11.7
Central Farmland	Clark	273.17	13.3	18.4	27.3
Central Farmland	Door	272.16	20	20.9	22.8
Central Farmland	Dunn	585.77	12.9	13.4	13.1
Central Farmland	Eau Claire	287.72	13.1	12.1	11.3
Central Farmland	Fond Du Lac	214.43	32.4	34.3	34.8
Central Farmland	Green Lake	179.13	26.1	26.7	35.8
Central Farmland	Jackson	374.28	21	15.9	18.0
Central Farmland	Juneau	231.29	18.9	15.6	12.3
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	97.56	52.6	43.6	55.0
Central Farmland	La Crosse	320.14	20.3	17.7	20.4
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	174.95	30.2	53.1	30.0
Central Farmland	Marathon	1000.16	18	23.2	19.3
Central Farmland	Marinette	345.96	13.5	16	16.1
Central Farmland	Marquette	342.73	20.3	31.2	27.3
Central Farmland	Monroe	539.21	17.9	15.6	16.6
Central Farmland	Oconto	413.03	25.2	30.9	23.2
Central Farmland	Outagamie	192.9	27.4	32.8	26.2
Central Farmland	Pepin	165.04	20.1	17.2	15.3
Central Farmland	Pierce	266.77	20.4	24.2	21.7
Central Farmland	Polk	623.37	17.9	21.3	18.7
Central Farmland	Portage	502.89	23.4	18.2	24.3
Central Farmland	St. Croix	239.24	23.3	18.9	18.0
Central Farmland	Shawano	579.7	24	27.4	27.6
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	190.74	27.7	30.4	22.6
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	541.65	17.8	17.6	16.7
Central Farmland	Waupaca	480.64	33.3	41.3	27.8
Central Farmland	Waushara	383.45	28.3	27.3	28.8
Central Farmland	Winnebago	112.94	26.7	35.4	27.0
Central Farmland	Wood	263.13	18.4	25	16.4
Central Forest	Adams	430.39	23.2	24.9	21.3
Central Forest	Clark	474.71	22.6	18.2	20.2
Central Forest	Eau Claire	173.23	14.8	10.4	15.8
Central Forest	Jackson	452.88	9	7.7	10.0
Central Forest	Juneau	380.52	13.9	12.9	12.7
Central Forest	Monroe	108.57	12.5	7.1	7.7
Central Forest	Wood	294.58	13.8	9.6	8.9
Northern Forest	Ashland	821.69	5.3	5.3	5.9
Northern Forest	Bayfield	1409.69	7.8	8.9	7.6
Northern Forest	Burnett	762.68	12.5	13.2	10.1

Table 3. *Nine-day gun season opening day deer hunting pressure expressed as hunters per square mile of deer range, with current deer range densities 2014-16.*

Deer Management Zone	County	Deer Range	2014 ^a	2015 ^a	2016 ^a
Northern Forest	Douglas	1238.2	6.1	7.9	6.3
Northern Forest	Florence	477.22	18	17.6	13.9
Northern Forest	Forest	996.54	9.2	9.7	7.5
Northern Forest	Iron	711.55	4.7	5.6	4.6
Northern Forest	Langlade	748.59	11.7	13.8	11.1
Northern Forest	Lincoln	797.12	14.2	13.3	14.6
Northern Forest	Marinette	920.62	16.7	20.3	13.9
Northern Forest	Menominee	182.0			
Northern Forest	Oconto	336.93	21.1	14.2	14.7
Northern Forest	Oneida	1072.2	10	11.9	9.0
Northern Forest	Price	1199.87	10.3	11.5	8.9
Northern Forest	Rusk	818.11	11.1	11.2	12.0
Northern Forest	Sawyer	1113.47	9.2	7.5	7.2
Northern Forest	Taylor	814.2	16.5	14.7	10.1
Northern Forest	Vilas	769.09	12.4	12.1	12.9
Northern Forest	Washburn	745.84	11.9	14.4	11.3
Southern Farmland	Columbia	370.92	33	29.9	24.9
Southern Farmland	Crawford	455.33	12.9	15	15.7
Southern Farmland	Dane	428.74	14.4	13.8	13.7
Southern Farmland	Dodge	272.75	22.7	26	22.0
Southern Farmland	Grant	547.09	16	16.7	17.7
Southern Farmland	Green	179.79	12.6	20.1	15.2
Southern Farmland	Iowa	417.64	21.3	17.3	15.1
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	196.83	29.9	17.7	18.2
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	92.74	6.5	7	9.1
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	146.29	26.8	23.8	20.8
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	46.42	.	.	.
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	78.21	13.5	21.4	13.4
Southern Farmland	Racine	100.29	12	5.1	7.3
Southern Farmland	Richland	415.11	20	19.9	20.8
Southern Farmland	Rock	138.42	15.3	19.6	26.6
Southern Farmland	Sauk	525.39	15.8	20.6	22.4
Southern Farmland	Vernon	525.85	16.1	22.3	20.8
Southern Farmland	Walworth	177.47	10.2	13.8	11.8
Southern Farmland	Washington	187.83	17.7	17.9	11.8
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	245.97	9.2	7.9	9.4

^a Opening day pressure is obtained from a survey sent to 10,000 Gun Deer and Sports license holders every year. The survey asks hunters to list the unit they hunted in each day of the season. Results from this survey are expanded to estimate the total hunters in each unit. Sampling problems can affect the estimates. Quota permit allocation and season structure may also shift hunting pressure. Questions or comments should be directed to Brian Dhuey.

GUN HARVEST

Wisconsin hunters killed 228,726 deer with a firearm during the 2016 Youth, 9-day gun, muzzleloader, December antlerless only, and holiday deer seasons. Summaries of the harvest by deer management zone and unit can be found in Tables 4-8 and Figures 1-4, respectively.

Table 4. The total 2016 gun deer harvest by deer management zone.

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total	Damage ^a
Central Farmland Zone	52,977	77,816	0	130,793	2,277
Central Forest Zone	5,350	3,539	0	8,889	130
Northern Forest Zone	24,997	11,104	0	36,101	486
Southern Farmland Zone	21,862	31,033	0	52,895	1,223
Unknown Zone	0	18	30	48	18
Total	105,186	123,510	30	228,726	4,134

^a Included in antlered and antlerless totals

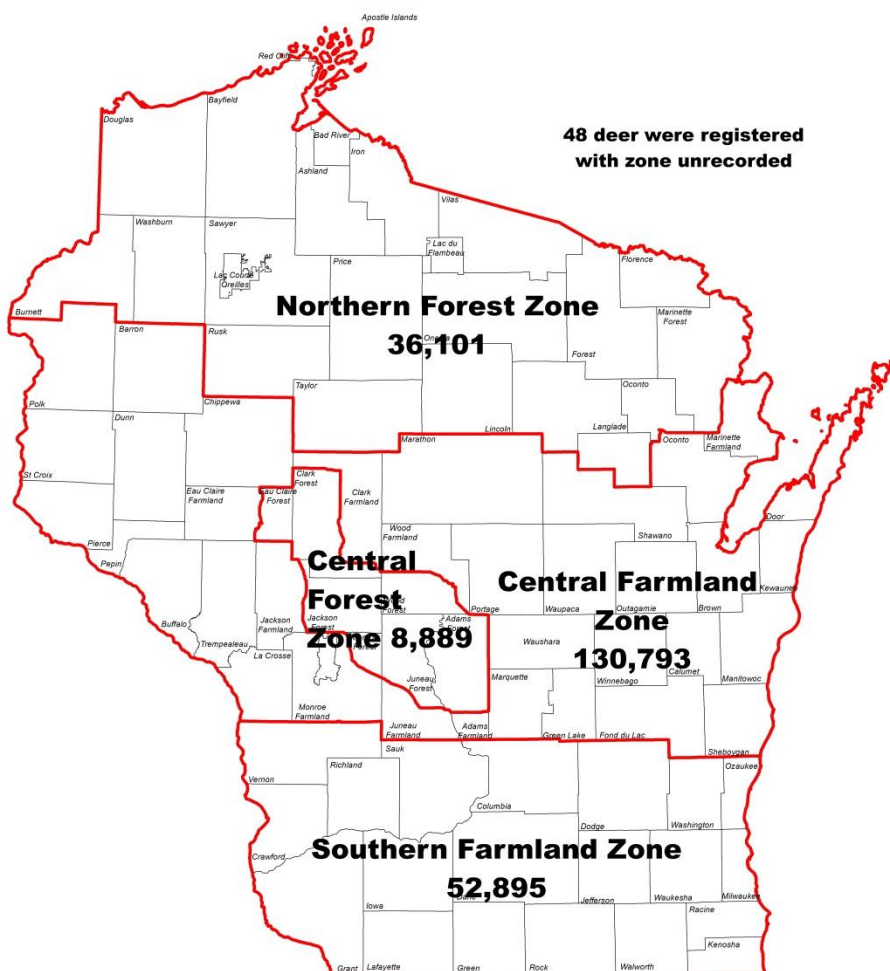
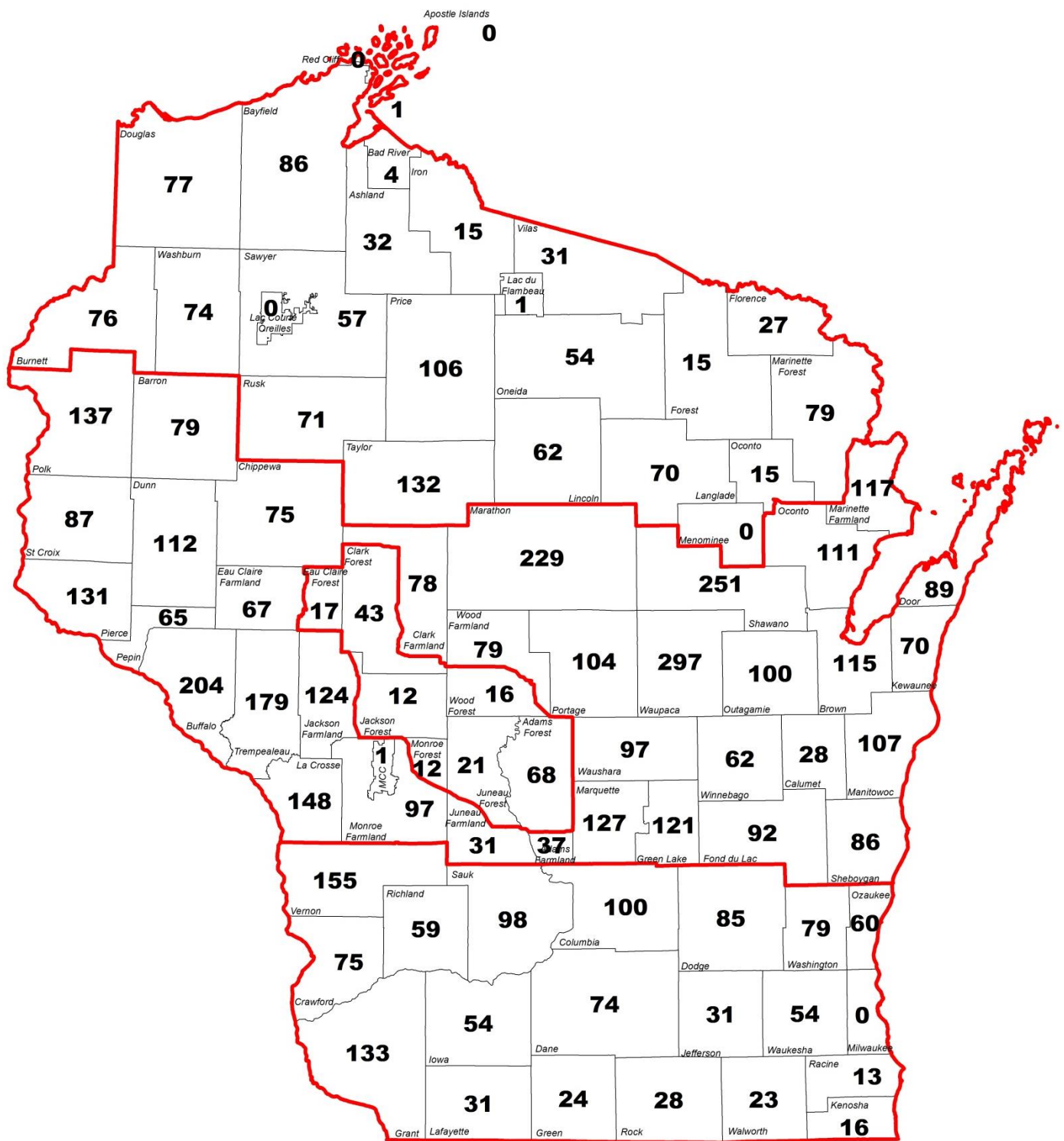


Figure 1. The 2016 gun deer harvest by deer management zone.



Total Muzzleloader Harvest = 6,400

Figure 3. The 2016 muzzleloader harvest by deer management unit.

Table 5. Summary of the 2016 9-day gun deer harvest by zone and county.

County	Deer					County	Deer Management								
	Management Zone	9-Day Antlered	9-Day Antlerless	9-Day Unks	9-Day Total		Management Zone	9-Day Antlered	9-Day Antlerless	9-Day Unks	9-Day Total				
Adams	Central Farmland	394	742	0	1,136	Ashland	Northern Forest	675	10	0	685				
Barron	Central Farmland	1,759	1,476	0	3,235	Apostle Islands	Northern Forest	0		0	0				
Brown	Central Farmland	711	775	0	1,486	Bad River	Northern Forest	58		0	58				
Buffalo	Central Farmland	1,630	2,765	0	4,395	Madeline Island	Northern Forest	44	23	0	67				
Calumet	Central Farmland	359	500	0	859	Bayfield	Northern Forest	2,021	276	0	2,297				
Chippewa	Central Farmland	1,529	849	0	2,378	Burnett	Northern Forest	1,743	1,387	0	3,130				
Clark	Central Farmland	1,376	2,065	0	3,441	Douglas	Northern Forest	1,942	369	0	2,311				
Door	Central Farmland	1,240	1,543	0	2,783	Florence	Northern Forest	824	276	0	1,100				
Dunn	Central Farmland	2,008	3,091	0	5,099	Forest	Northern Forest	844	34	0	878				
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	779	1,115	0	1,894	Iron	Northern Forest	300	38	0	338				
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	1,102	1,375	0	2,477	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	15		0	15				
Green Lake	Central Farmland	1,140	1,678	0	2,818	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	9	3	0	12				
Jackson	Central Farmland	1,311	1,508	0	2,819	Langlade	Northern Forest	1,334	594	0	1,928				
Juneau	Central Farmland	788	1,056	0	1,844	Lincoln	Northern Forest	1,314	531	0	1,845				
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	888	1,346	0	2,234	Marinette	Northern Forest	1,942	519	0	2,461				
La Crosse	Central Farmland	1,028	1,396	0	2,424	Menominee	Northern Forest		1	0	1				
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	1,077	1,622	0	2,699	Oconto	Northern Forest	538	198	0	736				
Marathon	Central Farmland	3,373	4,449	0	7,822	Oneida	Northern Forest	1,337	277	0	1,614				
Marinette	Central Farmland	1,242	1,390	0	2,632	Price	Northern Forest	1,420	586	0	2,006				
Marquette	Central Farmland	1,680	2,333	0	4,013	Red Cliff	Northern Forest			0	0				
MCCoy	Central Farmland	223	200	0	423	Rusk	Northern Forest	1,705	775	0	2,480				
Monroe	Central Farmland	1,789	2,457	0	4,246	Sawyer	Northern Forest	1,360	49	0	1,409				
Oconto	Central Farmland	1,738	1,749	0	3,487	Taylor	Northern Forest	1,701	1,368	0	3,069				
Outagamie	Central Farmland	1,060	1,320	0	2,380	Vilas	Northern Forest	859	191	0	1,050				
Pepin	Central Farmland	624	1,114	0	1,738	Washburn	Northern Forest	1,544	1,981	0	3,525				
Pierce	Central Farmland	1,144	1,764	0	2,908	Northern Forest Total					23,529	9,486	0	33,015	
Polk	Central Farmland	2,512	3,916	0	6,428	Columbia	Southern Farmland	1,953	1,875	0	3,828				
Portage	Central Farmland	1,862	2,325	0	4,187	Crawford	Southern Farmland	1,385	2,091	0	3,476				
St Croix	Central Farmland	989	1,417	0	2,406	Dane	Southern Farmland	1,161	1,449	0	2,610				
Shawano	Central Farmland	2,867	4,010	0	6,877	Dodge	Southern Farmland	1,267	1,669	0	2,936				
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	809	1,096	0	1,905	Grant	Southern Farmland	2,309	2,971	0	5,280				
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	1,840	2,570	0	4,410	Green	Southern Farmland	785	965	0	1,750				
Waupaca	Central Farmland	3,107	4,402	0	7,509	Iowa	Southern Farmland	1,694	1,764	0	3,458				
Waushara	Central Farmland	1,571	1,895	0	3,466	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	683	983	0	1,666				
Winnebago	Central Farmland	573	589	0	1,162	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	90	82	0	172				
Wood	Central Farmland	1,058	1,383	0	2,441	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	788	1,025	0	1,813				
Central Farmland Total		49,180	65,281	0	114,461	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	34	46	0	80				
Adams	Central Forest	1,275	1,211	0	2,486	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	230	290	0	520				
Clark	Central Forest	1,351	860	0	2,211	Racine	Southern Farmland	126	129	0	255				
Eau Claire	Central Forest	357	341	0	698	Richland	Southern Farmland	1,916	2,138	0	4,054				
Jackson	Central Forest	600	101	0	701	Rock	Southern Farmland	459	592	0	1,051				
Juneau	Central Forest	698	354	0	1,052	Sauk	Southern Farmland	2,235	2,711	0	4,946				
Monroe	Central Forest	235	76	0	311	Vernon	Southern Farmland	2,301	3,397	0	5,698				
Wood	Central Forest	580	176	0	756	Walworth	Southern Farmland	333	331	0	664				
Central Forest Total		5,096	3,119	0	8,215	Washington	Southern Farmland	617	851	0	1,468				
							Waukesha	Southern Farmland	367	507	0	874			
							Southern Farmland Total					20,733	25,866	0	46,599
							Unknown	Unknown	0	18	30	48			
							Unknown Total					0	18	30	48
							Grand Total					98,538	103,770	30	202,338

Table 6. Summary of the 2016 muzzleloader deer harvest by zone and unit.

County	Deer Management Zone	Muzzle loader Antlered	Muzzle loader Antlerless	Muzzle loader Unks	Muzzle loader Total	County	Deer Management Zone	Muzzle loader Antlered	Muzzle loader Antlerless	Muzzle loader Unks	Muzzle loader Total
Adams	Central Farmland	10	27	0	37	Ashland	Northern Forest	32		0	32
Barron	Central Farmland	37	42	0	79	Apostle Islands	Northern Forest				0
Brown	Central Farmland	54	61	0	115	Bad River	Northern Forest	3	1		4
Buffalo	Central Farmland	67	137	0	204	Madeline Island	Northern Forest		1	0	1
Calumet	Central Farmland	12	16	0	28	Bayfield	Northern Forest	79	7	0	86
Chippewa	Central Farmland	37	38	0	75	Burnett	Northern Forest	36	40	0	76
Clark	Central Farmland	25	53	0	78	Douglas	Northern Forest	62	15	0	77
Door	Central Farmland	28	61	0	89	Florence	Northern Forest	22	5	0	27
Dunn	Central Farmland	44	68	0	112	Forest	Northern Forest	14	1	0	15
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	25	42	0	67	Iron	Northern Forest	11	4	0	15
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	34	58	0	92	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest				0
Green Lake	Central Farmland	32	89	0	121	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	1			1
Jackson	Central Farmland	38	86	0	124	Langlade	Northern Forest	44	26	0	70
Juneau	Central Farmland	10	21	0	31	Lincoln	Northern Forest	45	17	0	62
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	22	48	0	70	Marinette	Northern Forest	54	25	0	79
La Crosse	Central Farmland	53	95	0	148	Menominee	Northern Forest				0
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	36	71	0	107	Oconto	Northern Forest	10	5	0	15
Marathon	Central Farmland	73	156	0	229	Oneida	Northern Forest	39	15	0	54
Marinette	Central Farmland	30	87	0	117	Price	Northern Forest	74	32	0	106
Marquette	Central Farmland	48	79	0	127	Red Cliff	Northern Forest				0
MCCoy	Central Farmland	1			1	Rusk	Northern Forest	52	19	0	71
Monroe	Central Farmland	38	59	0	97	Sawyer	Northern Forest	56	1	0	57
Oconto	Central Farmland	41	70	0	111	Taylor	Northern Forest	76	56	0	132
Outagamie	Central Farmland	39	61	0	100	Vilas	Northern Forest	28	3	0	31
Pepin	Central Farmland	17	48	0	65	Washburn	Northern Forest	23	51	0	74
Pierce	Central Farmland	48	83	0	131	Northern Forest Total		761	324	0	1,085
Polk	Central Farmland	39	98	0	137	Columbia	Southern Farmland	45	55	0	100
Portage	Central Farmland	40	64	0	104	Crawford	Southern Farmland	23	52	0	75
St Croix	Central Farmland	27	60	0	87	Dane	Southern Farmland	28	46	0	74
Shawano	Central Farmland	67	184	0	251	Dodge	Southern Farmland	33	52	0	85
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	30	56	0	86	Grant	Southern Farmland	51	82	0	133
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	52	127	0	179	Green	Southern Farmland	12	12	0	24
Waupaca	Central Farmland	87	210	0	297	Iowa	Southern Farmland	26	28	0	54
Waushara	Central Farmland	39	58	0	97	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	14	17	0	31
Winnebago	Central Farmland	23	39	0	62	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	10	6	0	16
Wood	Central Farmland	28	51	0	79	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	6	25	0	31
Central Farmland Total		1,331	2,603	0	3,934	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland			0	0
Adams	Central Forest	32	36	0	68	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	22	38	0	60
Clark	Central Forest	25	18	0	43	Racine	Southern Farmland	9	4	0	13
Eau Claire	Central Forest	12	5	0	17	Richland	Southern Farmland	25	34	0	59
Jackson	Central Forest	11	1	0	12	Rock	Southern Farmland	14	14	0	28
Juneau	Central Forest	15	6	0	21	Sauk	Southern Farmland	29	69	0	98
Monroe	Central Forest	9	3	0	12	Vernon	Southern Farmland	47	108	0	155
Wood	Central Forest	12	4	0	16	Walworth	Southern Farmland	9	14	0	23
Central Forest Total		116	73	0	189	Washington	Southern Farmland	29	50	0	79
						Waukesha	Southern Farmland	30	24	0	54
						Southern Farmland Total		462	730	0	1,192
						Unknown	Unknown				0
						Unknown Total		0	0	0	0
						Grand Total		2,670	3,730	0	6,400

Table 7. Summary of the 2016 Youth, December antlerless, and Holiday Hunt season deer harvest by zone and unit.

County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unks	Total Kill	County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unks	Total Kill
Adams	Central Farmland	15	65	0	80	Ashland	Northern Forest	29	2	0	31
Barron	Central Farmland	99	173	0	272	Apostle Islands	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Brown	Central Farmland	51	196	0	247	Bad River	Northern Forest	2	0	0	2
Buffalo	Central Farmland	118	459	0	577	Madeline Island	Northern Forest	0	1	0	1
Calumet	Central Farmland	18	67	0	85	Bayfield	Northern Forest	34	33	0	67
Chippewa	Central Farmland	95	147	0	242	Burnett	Northern Forest	37	141	0	178
Clark	Central Farmland	80	224	0	304	Douglas	Northern Forest	29	61	0	90
Door	Central Farmland	67	187	0	254	Florence	Northern Forest	26	44	0	70
Dunn	Central Farmland	102	324	0	426	Forest	Northern Forest	17	0	0	17
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	34	136	0	170	Iron	Northern Forest	7	8	0	15
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	56	201	0	257	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Green Lake	Central Farmland	54	570	0	624	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Jackson	Central Farmland	71	214	0	285	Langlade	Northern Forest	37	97	0	134
Juneau	Central Farmland	30	104	0	134	Lincoln	Northern Forest	50	83	0	133
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	47	156	0	203	Marinette	Northern Forest	51	97	0	148
La Crosse	Central Farmland	39	159	0	198	Menominee	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	48	177	0	225	Oconto	Northern Forest	10	26	0	36
Marathon	Central Farmland	168	508	0	676	Oneida	Northern Forest	37	46	0	83
Marinette	Central Farmland	50	342	0	392	Price	Northern Forest	61	95	0	156
Marquette	Central Farmland	68	683	0	751	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
MCCoy	Central Farmland	0	0	0	0	Rusk	Northern Forest	80	138	0	218
Monroe	Central Farmland	64	316	0	380	Sawyer	Northern Forest	36	1	0	37
Oconto	Central Farmland	82	250	0	332	Taylor	Northern Forest	122	244	0	366
Outagamie	Central Farmland	66	190	0	256	Vilas	Northern Forest	16	38	0	54
Pepin	Central Farmland	26	228	0	254	Washburn	Northern Forest	26	139	0	165
Pierce	Central Farmland	43	187	0	230	Northern Forest Total		707	1,294	0	2,001
Polk	Central Farmland	101	324	0	425	Columbia	Southern Farmland	73	648	0	721
Portage	Central Farmland	86	289	0	375	Crawford	Southern Farmland	27	298	0	325
St Croix	Central Farmland	59	145	0	204	Dane	Southern Farmland	31	159	0	190
Shawano	Central Farmland	161	608	0	769	Dodge	Southern Farmland	51	155	0	206
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	30	96	0	126	Grant	Southern Farmland	66	353	0	419
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	105	374	0	479	Green	Southern Farmland	13	97	0	110
Waupaca	Central Farmland	170	1,296	0	1,466	Iowa	Southern Farmland	58	297	0	355
Waushara	Central Farmland	71	248	0	319	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	22	126	0	148
Winnebago	Central Farmland	32	86	0	118	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	2	11	0	13
Wood	Central Farmland	60	203	0	263	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	27	160	0	187
Central Farmland Total		2,466	9,932	0	12,398	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	0	1	0	1
Adams	Central Forest	26	135	0	161	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	12	46	0	58
Clark	Central Forest	53	96	0	149	Racine	Southern Farmland	2	17	0	19
Eau Claire	Central Forest	8	36	0	44	Richland	Southern Farmland	68	539	0	607
Jackson	Central Forest	11	6	0	17	Rock	Southern Farmland	19	147	0	166
Juneau	Central Forest	12	32	0	44	Sauk	Southern Farmland	81	792	0	873
Monroe	Central Forest	13	11	0	24	Vernon	Southern Farmland	62	283	0	345
Wood	Central Forest	15	31	0	46	Walworth	Southern Farmland	10	44	0	54
Central Forest Total		138	347	0	485	Washington	Southern Farmland	29	117	0	146
						Waukesha	Southern Farmland	14	147	0	161
						Southern Farmland Total		667	4,437	0	5,104
						Unknown	Unknown				
						Unknown Total					
						Grand Total		3,978	16,010	0	19,988

Table 8. Summary of the 2016 gun deer harvest by zone and unit (includes Youth, 9-day, damage, muzzleloader, and December antlerless seasons).

County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total Kill
Adams	Central Farmland	419	834	0	1,253
Barron	Central Farmland	1,895	1,691	0	3,586
Brown	Central Farmland	816	1,032	0	1,848
Buffalo	Central Farmland	1,815	3,361	0	5,176
Calumet	Central Farmland	389	583	0	972
Chippewa	Central Farmland	1,661	1,034	0	2,695
Clark	Central Farmland	1,481	2,342	0	3,823
Door	Central Farmland	1,335	1,791	0	3,126
Dunn	Central Farmland	2,154	3,483	0	5,637
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	838	1,293	0	2,131
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	1,192	1,634	0	2,826
Green Lake	Central Farmland	1,226	2,337	0	3,563
Jackson	Central Farmland	1,420	1,808	0	3,228
Juneau	Central Farmland	828	1,181	0	2,009
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	957	1,550	0	2,507
La Crosse	Central Farmland	1,120	1,650	0	2,770
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	1,161	1,870	0	3,031
Marathon	Central Farmland	3,614	5,113	0	8,727
Marinette	Central Farmland	1,322	1,819	0	3,141
Marquette	Central Farmland	1,796	3,095	0	4,891
MCCoy	Central Farmland	224	200	0	424
Monroe	Central Farmland	1,891	2,832	0	4,723
Oconto	Central Farmland	1,861	2,069	0	3,930
Outagamie	Central Farmland	1,165	1,571	0	2,736
Pepin	Central Farmland	667	1,390	0	2,057
Pierce	Central Farmland	1,235	2,034	0	3,269
Polk	Central Farmland	2,652	4,338	0	6,990
Portage	Central Farmland	1,988	2,678	0	4,666
St Croix	Central Farmland	1,075	1,622	0	2,697
Shawano	Central Farmland	3,095	4,802	0	7,897
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	869	1,248	0	2,117
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	1,997	3,071	0	5,068
Waupaca	Central Farmland	3,364	5,908	0	9,272
Waushara	Central Farmland	1,681	2,201	0	3,882
Winnebago	Central Farmland	628	714	0	1,342
Wood	Central Farmland	1,146	1,637	0	2,783
Central Farmland Total		52,977	77,816	0	130,793
Adams	Central Forest	1,333	1,382	0	2,715
Clark	Central Forest	1,429	974	0	2,403
Eau Claire	Central Forest	377	382	0	759
Jackson	Central Forest	622	108	0	730
Juneau	Central Forest	725	392	0	1,117
Monroe	Central Forest	257	90	0	347
Wood	Central Forest	607	211	0	818
Central Forest Total		5,350	3,539	0	8,889
County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total Kill
Ashland	Northern Forest	736	12	0	748
Apostle Islands	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Bad River	Northern Forest	63	1	0	64
Madeline Island	Northern Forest	44	25	0	69
Bayfield	Northern Forest	2,134	316	0	2,450
Burnett	Northern Forest	1,816	1,568	0	3,384
Douglas	Northern Forest	2,033	445	0	2,478
Florence	Northern Forest	872	325	0	1,197
Forest	Northern Forest	875	35	0	910
Iron	Northern Forest	318	50	0	368
Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	15	0	0	15
Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	10	3	0	13
Langlade	Northern Forest	1,415	717	0	2,132
Lincoln	Northern Forest	1,409	631	0	2,040
Marinette	Northern Forest	2,047	641	0	2,688
Menominee	Northern Forest	0	1	0	1
Oconto	Northern Forest	558	229	0	787
Oneida	Northern Forest	1,413	338	0	1,751
Price	Northern Forest	1,555	713	0	2,268
Red Cliff	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Rusk	Northern Forest	1,837	932	0	2,769
Sawyer	Northern Forest	1,452	51	0	1,503
Taylor	Northern Forest	1,899	1,668	0	3,567
Vilas	Northern Forest	903	232	0	1,135
Washburn	Northern Forest	1,593	2,171	0	3,764
Northern Forest Total		24,997	11,104	0	36,101
Columbia	Southern Farmland	2,071	2,578	0	4,649
Crawford	Southern Farmland	1,435	2,441	0	3,876
Dane	Southern Farmland	1,220	1,654	0	2,874
Dodge	Southern Farmland	1,351	1,876	0	3,227
Grant	Southern Farmland	2,426	3,406	0	5,832
Green	Southern Farmland	810	1,074	0	1,884
Iowa	Southern Farmland	1,778	2,089	0	3,867
Jefferson	Southern Farmland	719	1,126	0	1,845
Kenosha	Southern Farmland	102	99	0	201
Lafayette	Southern Farmland	821	1,210	0	2,031
Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	34	47	0	81
Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	264	374	0	638
Racine	Southern Farmland	137	150	0	287
Richland	Southern Farmland	2,009	2,711	0	4,720
Rock	Southern Farmland	492	753	0	1,245
Sauk	Southern Farmland	2,345	3,572	0	5,917
Vernon	Southern Farmland	2,410	3,788	0	6,198
Walworth	Southern Farmland	352	389	0	741
Washington	Southern Farmland	675	1,018	0	1,693
Waukesha	Southern Farmland	411	678	0	1,089
Southern Farmland Total		21,862	31,033	0	52,895
Unknown	Unknown	0	18	30	48
Unknown Total		0	18	30	48
Grand Total		105,186	123,510	30	228,726

Hot-Spot Damage

Summaries of Wisconsin's hot-spot damage deer harvest by deer management zone, and deer management unit in Tables 9 & 10.

Table 9. *The 2016 damage deer harvest summary by deer management zone.*

Deer management zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	89	2,188	0	2,277
Central Forest	4	126	0	130
Northern Forest	11	475	0	486
Southern Farmland	71	1,152	0	1,223
Unknown	0	18	0	18
Total	175	3,959	0	4,134

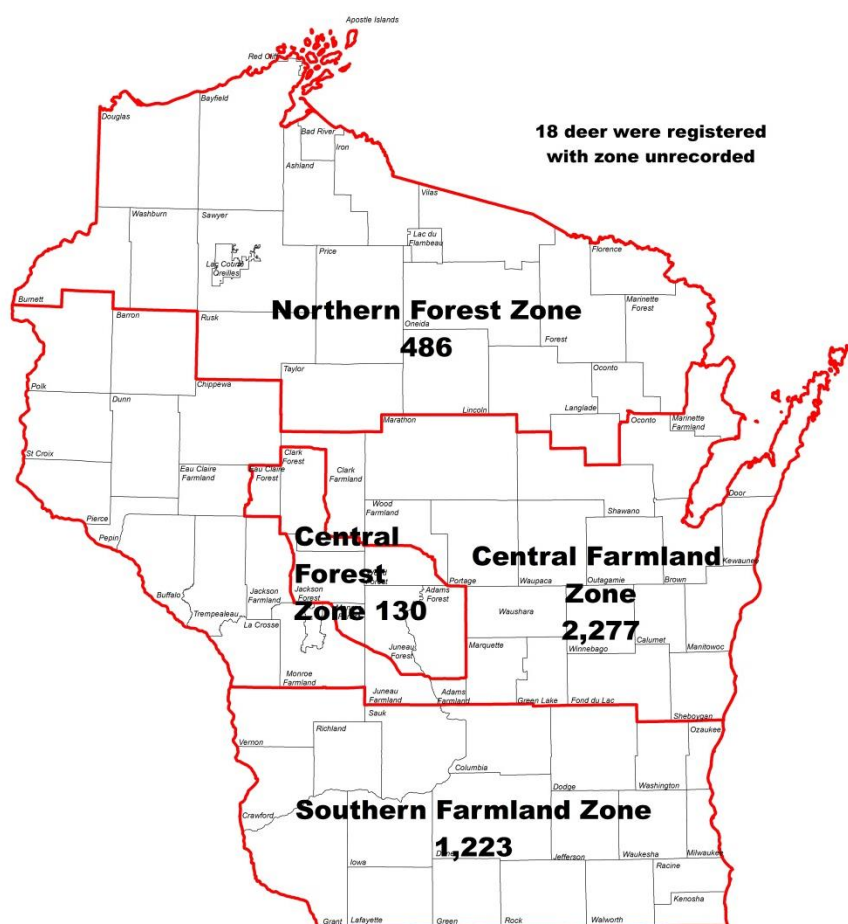


Figure 5. *The 2016 damage deer harvest by deer management zone.*

Table 10. *Summary of the 2016 damage/nuisance deer harvest by zone and unit.*

County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total Kill	County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total Kill
Adams	Central Farmland	0	19	0	19	Bayfield	Northern Forest	3	7	0	10
Barron	Central Farmland	3	23	0	26	Burnett	Northern Forest	0	30	0	30
Brown	Central Farmland	19	103	0	122	Douglas	Northern Forest	7	31	0	38
Buffalo	Central Farmland	0	57	0	57	Florence	Northern Forest	0	109	0	109
Calumet	Central Farmland	0	5	0	5	Forest	Northern Forest	0	15	0	15
Chippewa	Central Farmland	1	25	0	26	Iron	Northern Forest	0	2	0	2
Clark	Central Farmland	0	9	0	9	Langlade	Northern Forest	0	26	0	26
Door	Central Farmland	6	28	0	34	Lincoln	Northern Forest	0	48	0	48
Dunn	Central Farmland	1	35	0	36	Oneida	Northern Forest	0	20	0	20
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	2	9	0	11	Price	Northern Forest	0	32	0	32
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	0	21	0	21	Rusk	Northern Forest	0	46	0	46
Green Lake	Central Farmland	6	221	0	227	Sawyer	Northern Forest	0	30	0	30
Jackson	Central Farmland	2	62	0	64	Taylor	Northern Forest	1	21	0	22
Juneau	Central Farmland	0	1	0	1	Vilas	Northern Forest	0	25	0	25
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	1	12	0	13	Washburn	Northern Forest	0	33	0	33
La Crosse	Central Farmland	7	69	0	76	Northern Forest Total		11	475	0	486
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	0	16	0	16	Columbia	Southern Farmland	3	164	0	167
Marathon	Central Farmland	0	125	0	125	Crawford	Southern Farmland	3	43	0	46
Marinette	Central Farmland	0	198	0	198	Dane	Southern Farmland	11	55	0	66
Marquette	Central Farmland	0	84	0	84	Dodge	Southern Farmland	2	14	0	16
MCCoy	Central Farmland					Grant	Southern Farmland	0	140	0	140
Monroe	Central Farmland	0	34	0	34	Green	Southern Farmland	0	12	0	12
Oconto	Central Farmland	1	28	0	29	Iowa	Southern Farmland	0	135	0	135
Outagamie	Central Farmland	4	180	0	184	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	1	14	0	15
Pepin	Central Farmland	0	6	0	6	Kenosha	Southern Farmland				
Pierce	Central Farmland	4	5	0	9	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	0	20	0	20
Polk	Central Farmland	3	100	0	103	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	34	44	0	78
Portage	Central Farmland	4	147	0	151	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	0	3	0	3
St Croix	Central Farmland	1	13	0	14	Racine	Southern Farmland	1	4	0	5
Shawano	Central Farmland	6	129	0	135	Richland	Southern Farmland	1	117	0	118
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	14	12	0	26	Rock	Southern Farmland	0	3	0	3
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	0	76	0	76	Sauk	Southern Farmland	1	88	0	89
Waupaca	Central Farmland	4	139	0	143	Vernon	Southern Farmland	0	103	0	103
Waushara	Central Farmland	0	80	0	80	Walworth	Southern Farmland	0	8	0	8
Winnebago	Central Farmland	0	33	0	33	Washington	Southern Farmland	5	56	0	61
Wood	Central Farmland	0	84	0	84	Waukesha	Southern Farmland	9	129	0	138
Central Farmland Total		89	2,188	0	2,277	Southern Farmland Total		71	1,152	0	1,223
Adams	Central Forest	0	65	0	65	Jackson	Unknown	0	5	0	5
Clark	Central Forest	0	13	0	13	LaCrosse	Unknown	0	7	0	7
Eau Claire	Central Forest					Monroe	Unknown	0	2	0	2
Jackson	Central Forest	2	8	0	10	St Croix	Unknown	0	2	0	2
Juneau	Central Forest	2	9	0	11	Wood	Unknown	0	1	0	1
Monroe	Central Forest	0	8	0	8	Unknown	Unknown	0	1	0	1
Wood	Central Forest	0	23	0	23	Unknown Total		0	18	0	18
Central Forest Total		4	126	0	130	Grand Total		175	3,959	0	4,134

Chippewa Deer Harvest Summary

The Lake Superior Chippewa Bands began a negotiated deer season with the State of Wisconsin in 1983. The total harvest for 2016 and past years is given in Table 11. The 2016 Chippewa deer harvest by deer management zone and unit are listed in Table 12.

Table 11. *Chippewa deer harvest summary, 1983-2016.*

Year	Antlered Kill	Antlerless Kill	Unknown Kill	Total Kill
1983	235	403	5	643
1984	213	447	28	688
1985	435	945	0	1,380
1986	615	1,530	0	2,145
1987	730	2,099	0	2,829
1988	902	2,468	0	3,370
1989	1,016	2,727	1	3,744
1990	1,101	2,739	2	3,842
1991	1,095	3,844	0	4,939
1992	690	1,850	0	2,540
1993	677	1,787	0	2,464
1994	1,163	2,469	5	3,637
1995	1,584	3,340	1	4,925
1996	1,100	2,224	23	3,347
1997	1,120	2,227	0	3,347
1998	1,529	2,435	0	3,964
1999	1,349	1,896	18	3,263
2000	1,351	1,630	0	2,981
2001	1,047	1,526	0	2,573
2002	861	1,044	0	1,905
2003	1,162	1,524	0	2,686
2004	954	1,068	0	2,022
2005	852	1,305	6	2,163
2006	956	1,354	2	2,312
2007	828	1,015	0	1,843
2008	695	900	0	1,595
2009	540	842	0	1,382
2010	646	847	0	1,493
2011	508	831	1	1,340
2012	666	943	0	1,609
2013	542	817	0	1,359
2014	423	702	0	1,125
2015	491	787	0	1,278
2016	582	886	0	1,469

Table 12. *Summary of the 2016 Chippewa harvest by deer management zone and unit.*

Deer Management Zone	County	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Northern Forest	Ashland	1	0	0	1
Northern Forest	Barron	1	1	0	2
Northern Forest	Bayfield	139	129	1	269
Northern Forest	Burnett	165	204	0	369
Central Farmland	Chippewa	2	1	0	3
Northern Forest	Douglas	60	85	0	145
Central Forest	Eau Claire	1	0	0	1
Northern Forest	Florence	2	21	0	23
Northern Forest	Forest	22	84	0	106
Northern Forest	Iron	4	11	0	15
Northern Forest	Langlade	9	11	0	20
Northern Forest	Lincoln	0	2	0	2
Northern Forest	Marinette	1	13	0	14
Northern Forest	Oconto	1	0	0	1
Northern Forest	Oneida	21	54	0	75
Central Farmland	Polk	10	3	0	13
Northern Forest	Price	10	28	0	38
Northern Forest	Rusk	5	10	0	15
Northern Forest	Sawyer	49	72	0	121
Central Farmland	St. Croix	0	1	0	1
Northern Forest	Taylor	1	0	0	1
Northern Forest	Vilas	51	136	0	187
Northern Forest	Washburn	27	19	0	46
	Unknown	0	1	0	1
Total		582	886	1	1,469

Bow Harvest

Wisconsin bow hunters killed 48,272 deer during the bow deer seasons (Table 14).

Table 13. *The 2016 bow deer harvest by deer management zone.*

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	15,254	13,393	0	28,647
Central Forest	1,325	461	0	1,786
Northern Forest	4,509	1,300	0	5,809
Southern Farmland	7,083	4,946	0	12,029
Unknown	1	0	0	1
Total	28,172	20,100	0	48,272

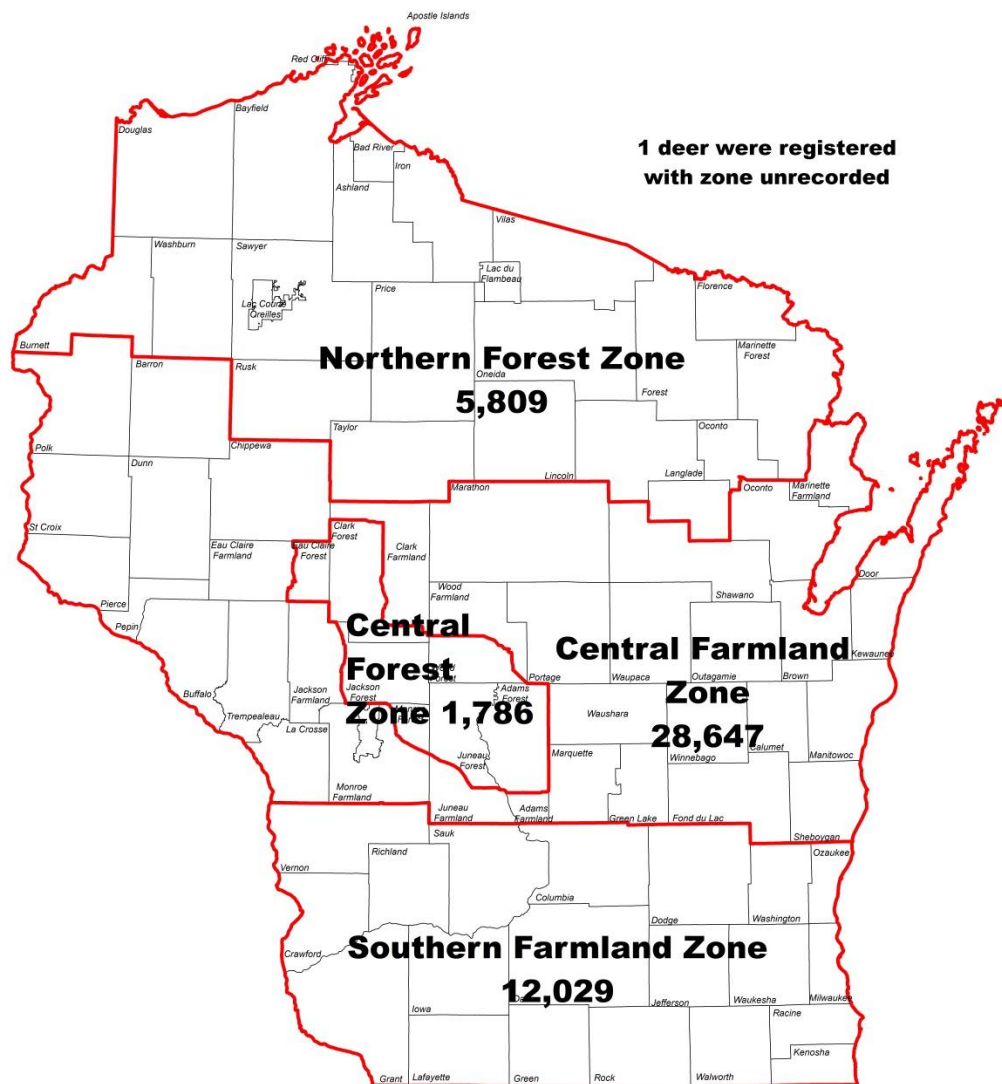


Figure 6. *The 2016 bow deer harvest by deer management zone.*

Table 14. Summary of the 2016 bow deer harvest by zone and unit (vertical bow).

County	Deer Management Zone	Bow Antlered	Bow Antlerless	Bow Unknown	Bow Total Kill	County	Deer Management Zone	Bow Antlered	Bow Antlerless	Bow Unknown	Bow Total Kill
Adams	Central Farmland	110	115	0	225	Ashland	Northern Forest	124	0	0	124
Barron	Central Farmland	476	267	0	743	Apostle Islands	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Brown	Central Farmland	304	260	0	564	Bad River	Northern Forest	4	0	0	4
Buffalo	Central Farmland	817	633	0	1,450	Madeline Island	Northern Forest	5	7	0	12
Calumet	Central Farmland	133	108	0	241	Bayfield	Northern Forest	263	11	0	274
Chippewa	Central Farmland	545	199	0	744	Burnett	Northern Forest	325	258	0	583
Clark	Central Farmland	303	329	0	632	Douglas	Northern Forest	334	38	0	372
Door	Central Farmland	261	277	0	538	Florence	Northern Forest	120	16	0	136
Dunn	Central Farmland	544	502	0	1,046	Forest	Northern Forest	100	2	0	102
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	250	284	0	534	Iron	Northern Forest	45	2	0	47
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	423	379	0	802	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Green Lake	Central Farmland	365	284	0	649	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Jackson	Central Farmland	408	312	0	720	Langlade	Northern Forest	287	91	0	378
Juneau	Central Farmland	224	154	0	378	Lincoln	Northern Forest	334	92	0	426
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	225	237	0	462	Marinette	Northern Forest	363	76	0	439
La Crosse	Central Farmland	381	322	0	703	Menominee	Northern Forest	1	0	0	1
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	392	313	0	705	Oconto	Northern Forest	139	30	0	169
Marathon	Central Farmland	895	765	0	1,660	Oneida	Northern Forest	187	21	0	208
Marinette	Central Farmland	228	345	0	573	Price	Northern Forest	317	94	0	411
Marquette	Central Farmland	499	479	0	978	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
MCCoy	Central Farmland	41	55	0	96	Rusk	Northern Forest	415	101	0	516
Monroe	Central Farmland	462	446	0	908	Sawyer	Northern Forest	317	2	0	319
Oconto	Central Farmland	471	377	0	848	Taylor	Northern Forest	471	227	0	698
Outagamie	Central Farmland	457	431	0	888	Vilas	Northern Forest	107	14	0	121
Pepin	Central Farmland	180	174	0	354	Washburn	Northern Forest	251	218	0	469
Pierce	Central Farmland	368	324	0	692	Northern Forest Total		4,509	1,300	0	5,809
Polk	Central Farmland	638	565	0	1,203	Columbia	Southern Farmland	597	350	0	947
Portage	Central Farmland	478	361	0	839	Crawford	Southern Farmland	370	187	0	557
St Croix	Central Farmland	401	411	0	812	Dane	Southern Farmland	507	364	0	871
Shawano	Central Farmland	899	975	0	1,874	Dodge	Southern Farmland	465	325	0	790
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	308	268	0	576	Grant	Southern Farmland	565	364	0	929
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	679	466	0	1,145	Green	Southern Farmland	239	139	0	378
Waupaca	Central Farmland	1,018	1,117	0	2,135	Iowa	Southern Farmland	486	355	0	841
Waushara	Central Farmland	510	379	0	889	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	284	218	0	502
Winnebago	Central Farmland	275	208	0	483	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	60	49	0	109
Wood	Central Farmland	286	272	0	558	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	200	145	0	345
Central Farmland Total		15,254	13,393	0	28,647	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	31	41	0	72
Adams	Central Forest	328	201	0	529	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	164	147	0	311
Clark	Central Forest	324	117	0	441	Racine	Southern Farmland	81	45	0	126
Eau Claire	Central Forest	91	49	0	140	Richland	Southern Farmland	545	345	0	890
Jackson	Central Forest	165	8	0	173	Rock	Southern Farmland	253	171	0	424
Juneau	Central Forest	170	54	0	224	Sauk	Southern Farmland	666	543	0	1,209
Monroe	Central Forest	75	17	0	92	Vernon	Southern Farmland	639	374	0	1,013
Wood	Central Forest	172	15	0	187	Walworth	Southern Farmland	166	118	0	284
Central Forest Total		1,325	461	0	1,786	Washington	Southern Farmland	380	344	0	724
						Waukesha	Southern Farmland	385	322	0	707
						Southern Farmland Total		7,083	4,946	0	12,029
						Unknown	Unknown	1	0	0	1
						Unknown Total		1	0	0	1
						Grand Total		28,172	20,100	0	48,272

Crossbow Harvest

Wisconsin crossbow hunters killed 39,776 deer during the crossbow deer seasons (Table 16).

Table 15. *The 2016 crossbow deer harvest by deer management zone.*

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	12,426	11,224	0	23,650
Central Forest	1,277	504	0	1,781
Northern Forest	5,823	1,697	0	7,520
Southern Farmland	4,033	2,788	0	6,821
Unknown	3	1	0	4
Total	23,562	16,214	0	39,776

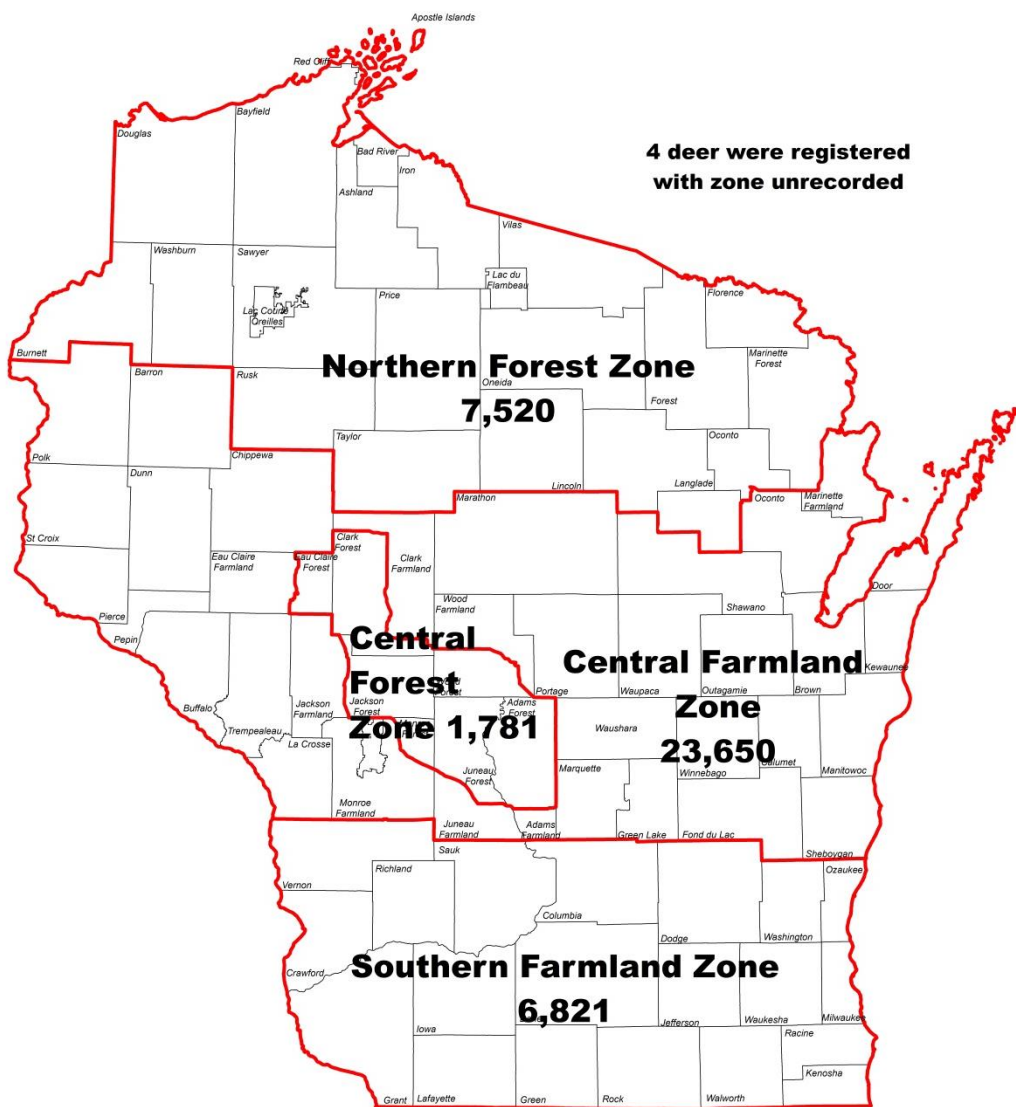


Figure 8. *The 2016 crossbow deer harvest by deer management zone.*

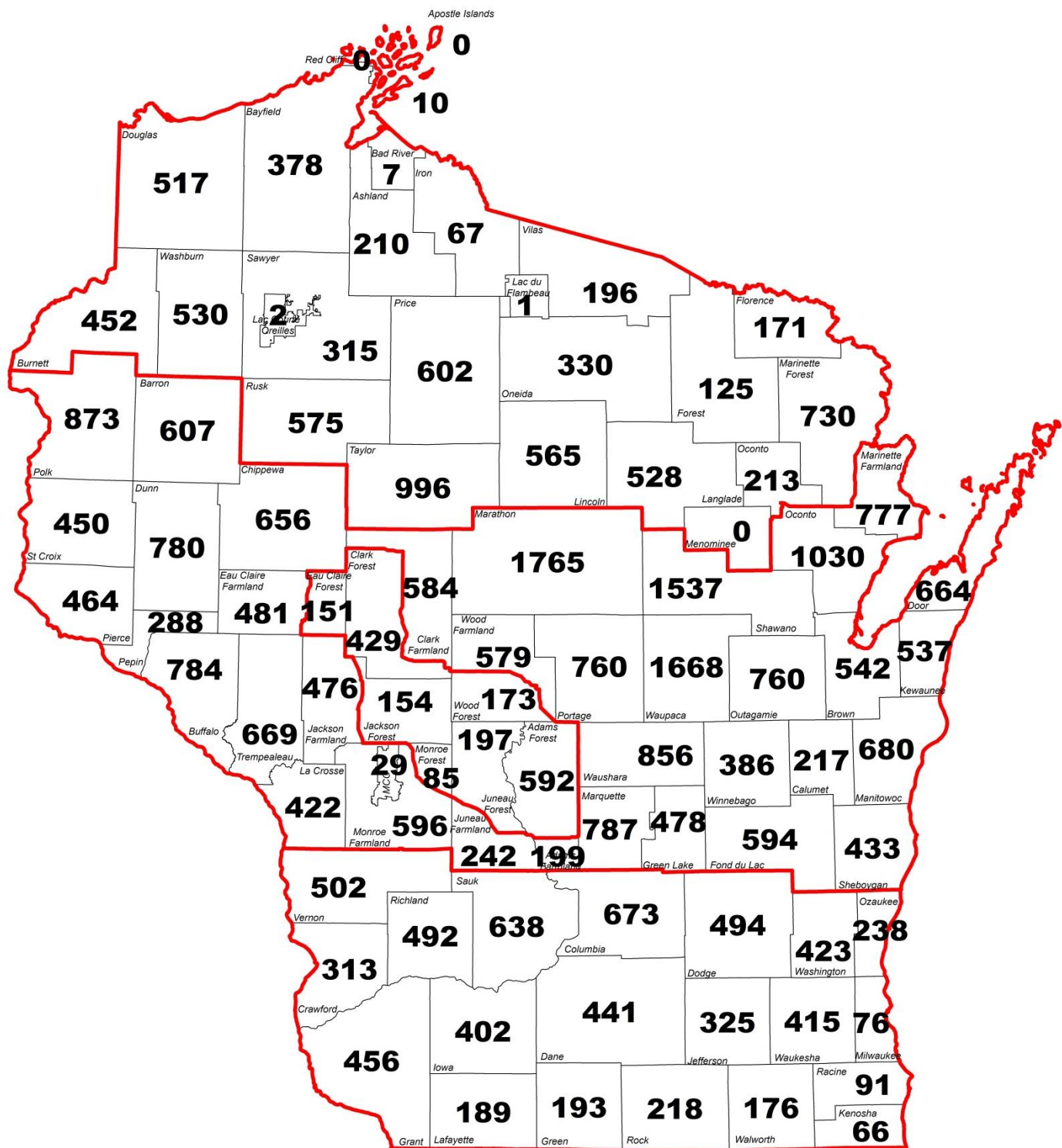


Table 16. Summary of the 2016 crossbow deer harvest by zone and unit.

County	Deer Management Zone	XBow Antlered	XBow Antlerless	XBow Unknown	XBow Total Kill	County	Deer Management Zone	XBow Antlered	XBow Antlerless	XBow Unknown	XBow Total Kill
Adams	Central Farmland	92	107	0	199	Ashland	Northern Forest	205	5	0	210
Barron	Central Farmland	394	213	0	607	Apostle Islands	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Brown	Central Farmland	276	266	0	542	Bad River	Northern Forest	7	0	0	7
Buffalo	Central Farmland	426	358	0	784	Madeline Island	Northern Forest	6	4	0	10
Calumet	Central Farmland	130	87	0	217	Bayfield	Northern Forest	349	29	0	378
Chippewa	Central Farmland	477	179	0	656	Burnett	Northern Forest	283	169	0	452
Clark	Central Farmland	273	311	0	584	Douglas	Northern Forest	450	67	0	517
Door	Central Farmland	304	360	0	664	Florence	Northern Forest	159	12	0	171
Dunn	Central Farmland	403	377	0	780	Forest	Northern Forest	119	6	0	125
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	224	257	0	481	Iron	Northern Forest	58	9	0	67
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	332	262	0	594	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	1	1	0	2
Green Lake	Central Farmland	260	218	0	478	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	1	0	0	1
Jackson	Central Farmland	271	205	0	476	Langlade	Northern Forest	414	114	0	528
Juneau	Central Farmland	120	122	0	242	Lincoln	Northern Forest	443	122	0	565
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	243	294	0	537	Marinette	Northern Forest	579	151	0	730
La Crosse	Central Farmland	225	197	0	422	Menominee	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	339	341	0	680	Oconto	Northern Forest	162	51	0	213
Marathon	Central Farmland	944	821	0	1,765	Oneida	Northern Forest	301	29	0	330
Marinette	Central Farmland	329	448	0	777	Price	Northern Forest	468	134	0	602
Marquette	Central Farmland	435	352	0	787	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
MCCoy	Central Farmland	21	8	0	29	Rusk	Northern Forest	460	115	0	575
Monroe	Central Farmland	316	280	0	596	Sawyer	Northern Forest	312	3	0	315
Oconto	Central Farmland	513	517	0	1,030	Taylor	Northern Forest	608	388	0	996
Outagamie	Central Farmland	395	365	0	760	Vilas	Northern Forest	171	25	0	196
Pepin	Central Farmland	154	134	0	288	Washburn	Northern Forest	267	263	0	530
Pierce	Central Farmland	244	220	0	464	Northern Forest Total		5,823	1,697	0	7,520
Polk	Central Farmland	454	419	0	873	Columbia	Southern Farmland	444	229	0	673
Portage	Central Farmland	421	339	0	760	Crawford	Southern Farmland	186	127	0	313
St Croix	Central Farmland	252	198	0	450	Dane	Southern Farmland	261	180	0	441
Shawano	Central Farmland	754	783	0	1,537	Dodge	Southern Farmland	300	194	0	494
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	212	221	0	433	Grant	Southern Farmland	289	167	0	456
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	414	255	0	669	Green	Southern Farmland	115	78	0	193
Waupaca	Central Farmland	801	867	0	1,668	Iowa	Southern Farmland	245	157	0	402
Waushara	Central Farmland	477	379	0	856	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	178	147	0	325
Winnebago	Central Farmland	222	164	0	386	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	38	28	0	66
Wood	Central Farmland	279	300	0	579	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	115	74	0	189
Central Farmland Total		12,426	11,224	0	23,650	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	27	49	0	76
Adams	Central Forest	357	235	0	592	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	118	120	0	238
Clark	Central Forest	286	143	0	429	Racine	Southern Farmland	59	32	0	91
Eau Claire	Central Forest	106	45	0	151	Richland	Southern Farmland	304	188	0	492
Jackson	Central Forest	146	8	0	154	Rock	Southern Farmland	134	84	0	218
Juneau	Central Forest	157	40	0	197	Sauk	Southern Farmland	386	252	0	638
Monroe	Central Forest	74	11	0	85	Vernon	Southern Farmland	279	223	0	502
Wood	Central Forest	151	22	0	173	Walworth	Southern Farmland	99	77	0	176
Central Forest Total		1,277	504	0	1,781	Washington	Southern Farmland	209	214	0	423
						Waukesha	Southern Farmland	247	168	0	415
						Southern Farmland Total		4,033	2,788	0	6,821
						Unknown	Unknown	3	1	0	4
						Unknown Total		3	1	0	4
						Grand Total		23,562	16,214	0	39,776

Table 17. Wisconsin deer harvest and hunters 1966-2016.

Year	Gun Season				Bow Season				Crossbow Season			
	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	Licensed Hunters	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	Licensed Hunters ¹	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	Licensed Hunters ²
1966	67,362	42,700	110,062	432,111	1,357	4,629	5,986	85,114				
1967	71,032	57,295	128,527	470,782	1,714	5,878	7,592	101,573				
1968	62,521	57,465	119,986	503,190	1,924	5,010	6,934	114,975				
1969	52,655	45,353	98,008	506,526	1,576	4,411	5,987	106,669				
1970	50,308	22,536	72,844	501,799	1,775	4,745	6,520	101,573				
1971	48,994	21,841	70,835	509,447	1,696	4,826	6,522	100,206				
1972	49,416	25,411	74,827	517,724	1,956	5,131	7,087	98,720				
1973	57,364	24,741	82,105	514,626	2,594	5,862	8,456	105,875				
1974	67,313	33,092	100,405	556,815	3,390	9,124	12,514	119,960				
1975	73,373	44,005	117,378	582,113	4,439	9,149	13,588	133,775				
1976	69,510	52,999	122,509	589,590	4,775	8,861	13,636	133,318				
1977	82,762	49,148	131,910	617,823	5,993	10,797	16,790	146,760				
1978	87,397	63,448	150,845	644,594	6,472	11,641	18,113	157,838				
1979	76,550	49,020	125,570	617,109	6,203	9,815	16,018	144,511				
1980	81,041	58,583	139,624	618,333	8,950	12,004	20,954	155,386				
1981	99,034	67,639	166,673	629,034	11,867	17,216	29,083	173,874				
1982	97,534	85,181	182,715	637,320	12,854	17,996	30,850	189,524				
1983	96,628	100,672	197,600	649,972	14,208	18,668	32,876	194,367				
1984	117,197	138,726	255,726	657,969	17,049	21,842	38,891	205,132				
1985	112,701	161,601	274,302	670,329	19,396	21,348	40,744	215,900				
1986	117,886	140,882	259,240	662,771	19,126	21,256	40,490	216,472				
1987	116,881	133,393	250,530	660,400	21,278	21,253	42,651	208,675				
1988	121,536	141,888	263,424	653,790	22,213	20,180	42,393	210,518				
1989	139,651	170,282	310,192	661,713	25,249	20,994	46,394	210,912				
1990	140,726	209,005	350,040	699,275	26,263	22,860	49,291	216,981				
1991	120,009	232,330	352,520	674,422	29,739	37,110	67,097	216,559				
1992	111,476	177,245	288,820	666,570	29,992	30,324	60,478	220,872				
1993	116,507	100,977	217,584	652,491	30,661	22,274	53,008	224,008				
1994	135,574	171,945	307,629	670,776	36,772	29,419	66,254	234,077				
1995	171,891	225,846	398,002	684,944	39,379	29,790	69,269	244,262				
1996	138,622	250,011	388,791	677,072	33,625	39,224	72,941	235,780				
1997	121,050	171,296	292,513	671,706	36,812	30,264	67,115	237,991				
1998	151,575	180,601	332,254	668,958	42,010	33,251	75,301	241,391				
1999	159,296	242,908	402,204	690,194	45,562	46,641	92,203	252,322				
2000	171,753	356,741	528,494	694,712	40,579	46,220	86,799	258,002				
2001	141,942	219,322	361,264	688,540	40,867	42,217	83,120	260,239				
2002	126,470	191,418	317,888	618,945	29,322	24,831	54,133	227,124				
2003	147,436	240,908	388,344	644,818	45,498	50,109	95,607	247,211				
2004	133,223	280,571	413,794	649,955	33,635	69,937	103,572	252,602				
2005	147,622	239,688	387,310	641,771	35,935	42,515	78,450	247,309				
2006	137,278	256,028	393,306	644,906	40,081	73,837	113,918	258,394				
2007	133,131	269,432	402,563	641,432	38,011	77,999	116,010	258,854				
2008	103,845	248,756	352,601	643,266	34,662	64,622	99,284	266,435				
2009	92,754	149,108	241,862	638,842	41,402	45,839	87,241	261,964				
2010	106,263	146,775	253,038	622,542	42,115	41,718	83,833	254,014				
2011	106,396	151,115	257,511	622,860	44,443	45,757	90,200	255,426				
2012	119,469	154,578	274,047	634,821	45,988	48,279	94,267	263,860				
2013	102,221	152,782	255,003	634,655	41,517	46,111	87,628	266,380				
2014	97,196	125,392	222,588	609,816	30,433	24,377	54,810	232,718	15,768	11,123	26,891	113,506
2015	99,757	122,974	222,731	613,165	31,229	21,775	53,004	227,700	20,594	13,500	34,094	131,293
2016	105,186	123,540	228,726	599,862 ^a	28,172	20,100	48,272	229,880 ^a	23,562	16,214	39,776	149,348 ^a

^a Numbers are preliminary¹ Includes bow, conservation patron, and crossbow authorities that purchased bow upgrade² Includes crossbow, conservation patron, and bow authorities that purchased crossbow upgrade

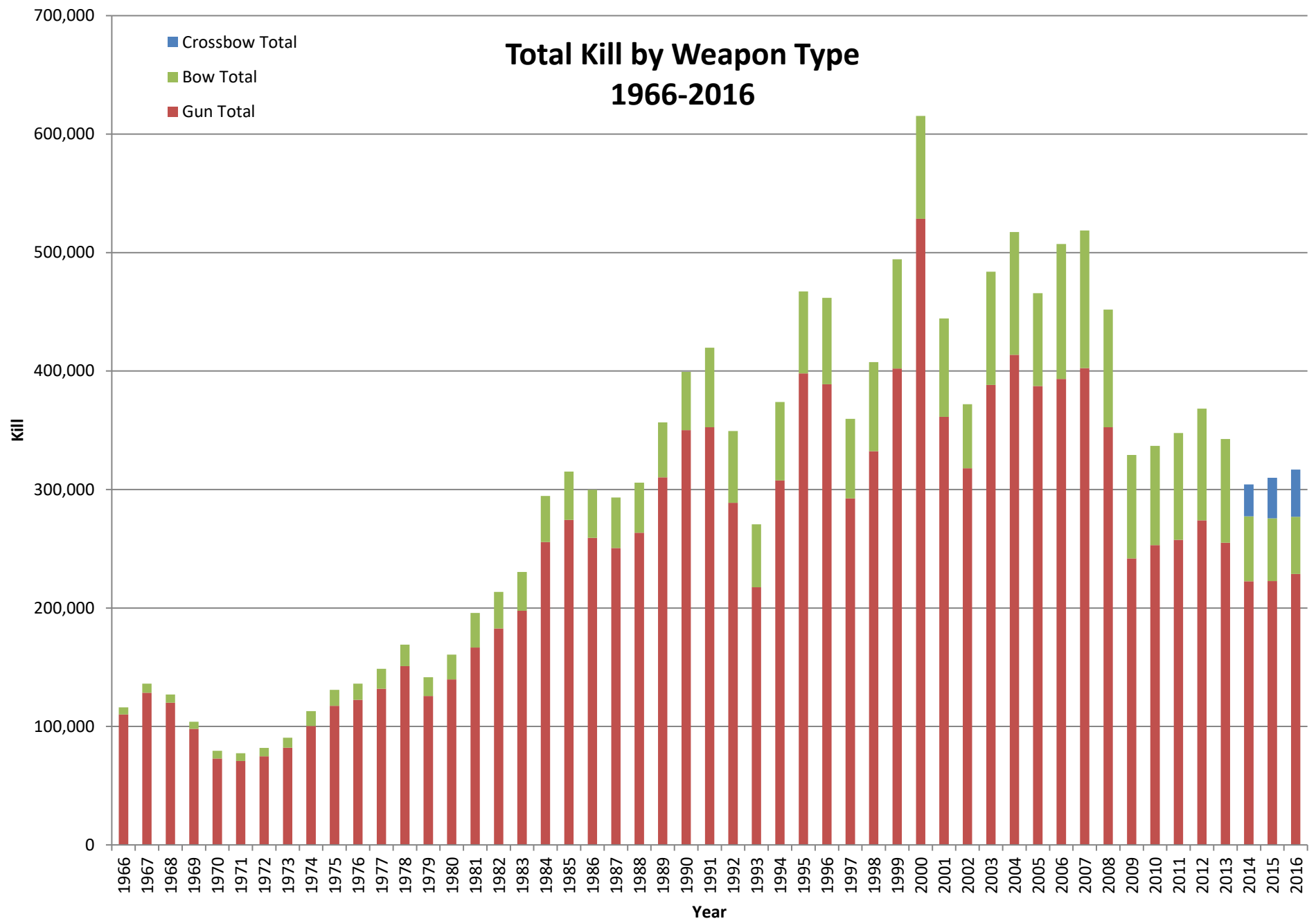


Figure 10. *Total deer harvest by weapon type, 1966-2016.*

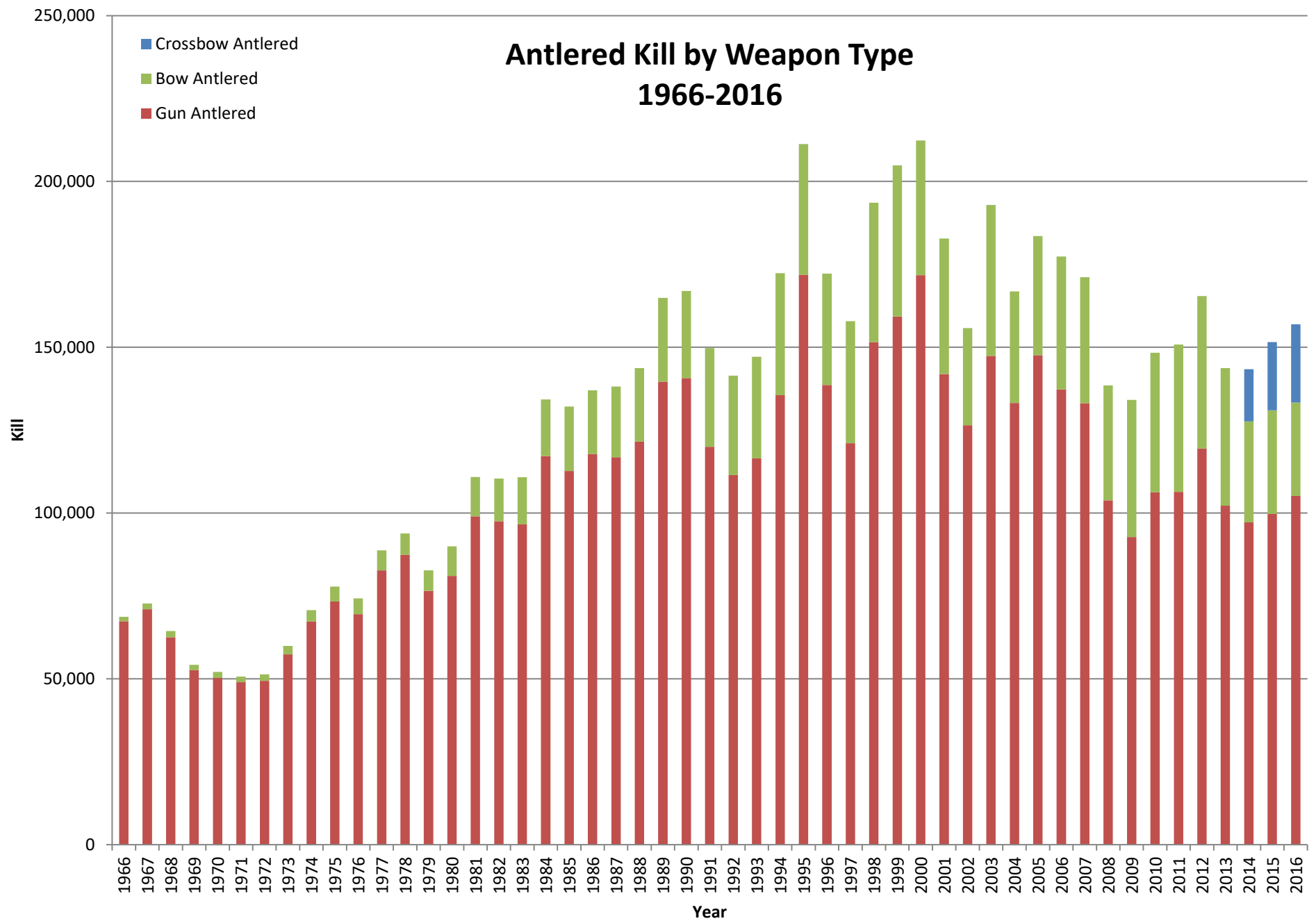


Figure 11. Antlered deer harvest by weapon type, 1966-2016.

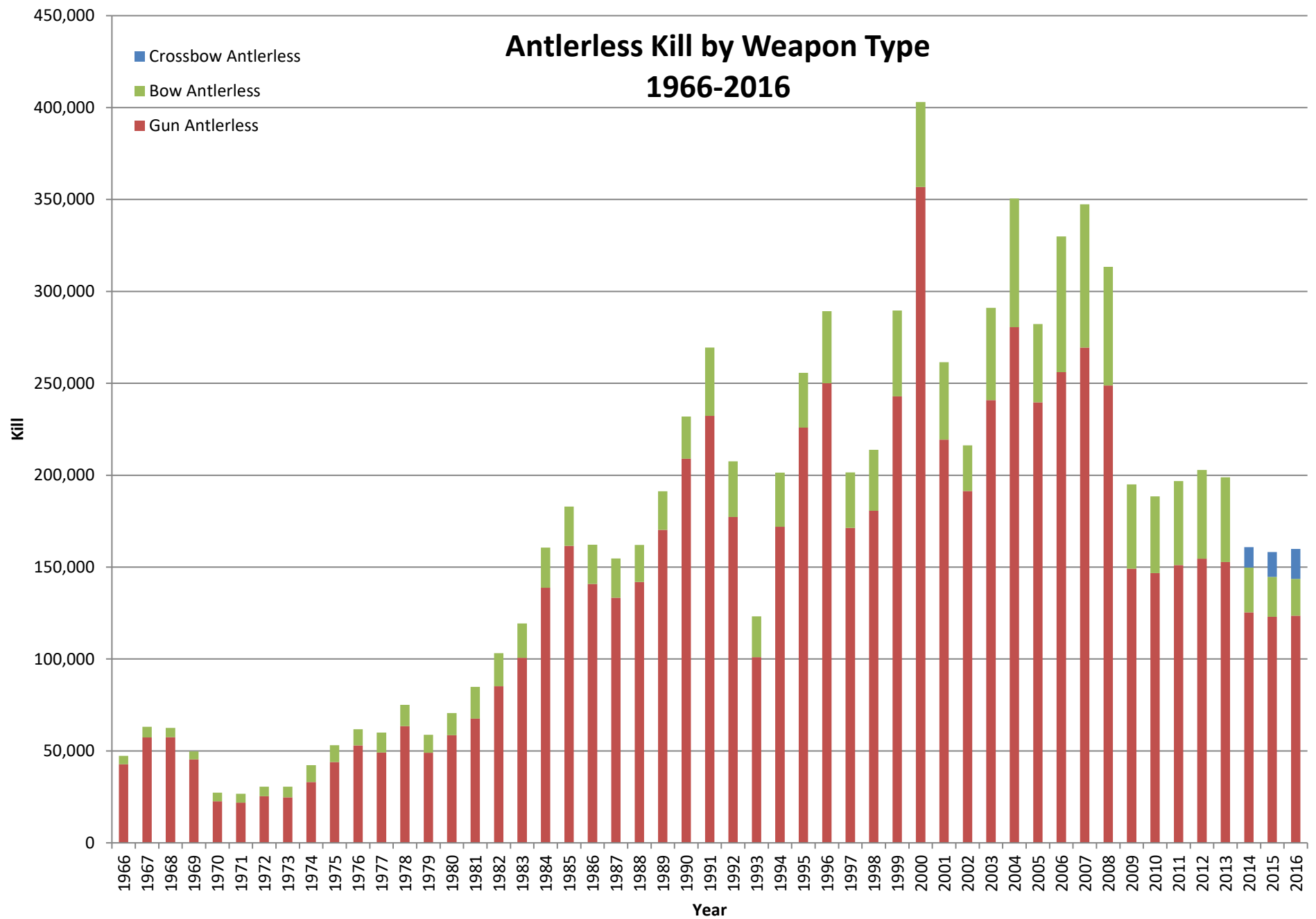


Figure 12. Antlerless deer harvest by weapon type, 1966-2016.

Hunting Accident Report

By Brenda Von Rueden
Bureau of Law Enforcement

2016 Bow Season, 17 September - 8 January
2016 Crossbow Season, 17 September - 8 January
2016 Youth Deer Season, 8 - 9 October
2016 9-Day Gun Deer Season, 19 - 27 November
2016 Muzzleloader Deer Season, 28 November - 7 December
2016 December Antlerless Only Gun Deer Season, 8 - 11 December
2016 Holiday Hunt Antlerless Only Gun Deer Season, 24 December – 1 January

Table 18. *The 9-day gun deer season accident summary by DNR region.*

DNR Region	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total
Central Farmland	0	0	0
Central Forest	0	0	0
Northern Forest	0	3	3
Southern Farmland	0	2	2
Total	0	5	5

Table 19. *The bow, crossbow, muzzleloader, December antlerless only, and holiday hunt deer seasons accident summary by DNR region.*

DNR Region	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total
Central Farmland	0	0	0
Central Forest	0	0	0
Northern Forest	0	0	0
Southern Farmland	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

- 2 accidents (40%) were a result of hunters shooting themselves.
- 2 accidents (40%) involved victim and shooter being members of the same hunting party.
- No accidents occurred outside the 9-day gun deer season.
- No fatal accidents occurred in 2016.

2016 Hunting Accident Synopsis

Type of Accident

SI = Self Inflicted Injury

SP = Shooter and Victim in Same Party

M = Male

F = Female

Table 20. Summary of the 2016 deer hunter accidents by incident.

#	Date/Time	Location	Injury Description	Fatal	Self Inflicted (SI) or Same Party (SP)	Shooter Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Victim Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Type of Firearm
1	11/19/2016 11:15am	Waukesha Private	Wound entering and exiting left knee and left foot	No	SI – Self Inflicted	62yr M Yes	Same as Shooter	12 Gauge Semi-Auto Action Shotgun
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting deer from tree stand. Shooter slipped and fell losing control of the muzzle/firearm when it discharged a slug that entered and exited both the left knee and left foot.								
2	11/19/2016 3:30pm	Taylor Private	Wound to left part of the abdomen	No	SP – Same Party	Unknown at this time	16yr M Unknown	Rifle Unknown at this time
Synopsis: Hunting party was doing a deer drive. Victim was driving deer and kicked up a buck which he shot at, buck ran into open field to posters, posters began shooting at deer which at that point, one of the bullets struck the victim.								
3	11/20/2016 10:23am	Taylor Public	Grazed head	No	Neither	13yr F Yes	28yr M Yes	.243 Caliber Bolt Action Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter was a stander during deer drive. Victim and driver of vehicle drove past shooter a few seconds earlier. Shooter shot at two antlerless deer that were pushed from the deer drive. One bullet came through back window of passing truck grazing the victim (passenger) on the left side of head near the ear.								
4	11/23/2016 09:30am	Oconto Public	Wound to upper right leg thigh area projectile passed through muscle area missing bone	No	SP - Same Party	16yr M Yes	14yr M Yes	30-30 Lever Action Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter and victim were staging behind vehicle in parking area before entering woods to hunt deer. Shooter failed to control muzzle while verifying half cock safety, firearm discharged hitting victim.								

Table 20. *Summary of the 2016 deer hunter accidents by incident.*

#	Date/Time	Location	Injury Description	Fatal	Self Inflicted (SI) or Same Party (SP)	Shooter Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Victim Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Type of Firearm
5	11/24/2016 02:30pm	Ozaukee Private	Slug entered through the inside of left foot and exited through the back of heel	No	SI – Self Inflicted	15yr M Yes	Same as Shooter	12 gauge semi-auto action shotgun
Synopsis: Victim was hunting deer in tower stand. Victim wanted to reposition and while moving the firearm it discharged hitting victim in foot.								

2016 Deer Ages and Condition

by Daniel J. Storm

Abstract

Harvest age-structure provides information on the dynamics of the deer herd. Yearling doe percentages are an indicator of herd recruitment, and were below or near average in Farmland regions. Due to 0-quota hunting seasons in Forest regions, sample sizes in those regions are too small to provide useful yearling doe percentage data. Relative to 5-year means, yearling buck percentages in 2016 were substantially higher in the 3 Northern Forest Regions county groups, somewhat higher in the 3 regions in the middle latitudes, and lower in the Southeast and Southwest regions. The increase in yearling buck percentages reflects increased over-winter survival of young-of-the-year from the mild 2015-2016 winter. The percentages of yearling bucks with forked antlers were similar to 5-year and long-term averages in Farmland county groupings, but above 5-year and long-term averages in Forest county groupings.

Introduction

Sampling age-composition of Wisconsin's deer herd using hunter-killed deer is an essential component of Wisconsin's deer population monitoring program. Age composition data by deer management unit (DMU) supports population modeling used to estimate DMU deer herd sizes and to set annual harvest quotas. Age samples also help when interpreting harvest changes.

Methods

Deer were aged using the molariform tooth wear and replacement method. Yearling antler development was recorded as "sub-legal" or short spikes (< 3 " antler), legal spikes (≥ 3 " spikes), and forked bucks (forked antlers and larger). Trends in yearling buck percent, yearling doe percent and antler development were estimated by pooling DMUs (now counties) across groupings of adjacent counties. The 2016 data were compared to 5-year and long-term (1997 - 2016) averages. County age samples for 1997-2013 were approximated from groupings of deer management units that included the county.

Results and Discussion

In 2016, field staff aged 15,418 deer (including animals sampled for CWD). The number of deer aged in 2016 was 14% more than the number of deer aged in 2015 ($n = 13,537$), and 5% fewer than the number of deer aged in 2014 ($n = 16,193$).

Buck ages

Yearling bucks comprised between 62-70% of the total buck harvest in the forest zone county groups during 2016, substantially above both 5-year and long-term means (Table 1). The higher-than-average yearling percentages may reflect increased deer recruitment, following a relatively mild winter. This may also be due to an especially weak 2013 age-class (bucks that would have been 3.5 years during the 2016 hunting season), due to high over-winter mortality of juvenile deer during the record-setting severe winter of 2013-2014. Yearling buck percents in the Northern Forest show significant annual variation, most likely due to the variable recruitment that occurs there. Nevertheless, variation in hunter pressure and weather conditions in this region during the 9-day firearm season could cause similar variation in buck harvest rates.

In farmland zone county groups, yearling buck percentages were above average, except in the Southeastern and Southwestern Farmland county groups (Table 1). In general, there has been a long-term decline in yearling buck percentages. In the Farmlands, reduced yearling buck percents could be due to increased deer populations relative to hunter numbers, which would reduce buck harvest rates. Reduced recruitment could also contribute to lower yearling buck percentages. Yearling doe percentages have generally declined in the Farmlands as well (discussed below), supporting the notion that recruitment could be declining. However, yearling buck percentages have declined at a faster rate than yearling doe percentages, suggesting that reduced exploitation is at least partially driving this trend.

Table 1. *Regional trends in percent yearling bucks in the buck harvest, 2012-2016.*

Region	5 Year Mean (%)	Long-term Mean (%)	Yearling Buck Percentages					Percent 2016 is off 5-yr. Mean
			2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Northwest Forest	51	53	50	55	45	53	60	18
Northcentral Forest	53	53	56	53	49	55	65	22
Northeast Forest	56	62	64	51	48	63	70	24
Central Forest	57	56	60	58	49	59	62	10
Central Farmland	54	59	56	56	47	58	61	12
Lake Michigan Farmland	56	62	56	60	54	56	62	10
Western Farmland	54	57	56	53	48	59	58	8
Southeastern Farmland	53	54	50	55	56	53	48	-10
Southwestern Farmland	41	47	42	42	38	43	39	-5

*1997-2016

Doe ages

Yearling doe percentage data was inadequate to make inferences in the forest zones and the Lake Michigan Farmland zone, due to low numbers of antlerless deer aged there.

Yearling doe percentages in farmland zone county groups have declined over time (Table 2). Long-term decreases in yearling doe percentages across the farmland regions may be attributed to decreased reproduction and survival to 1 year of age resulting from a legacy of past high deer populations and over-browsed woodlands and reduced nutrition. Predator populations may play a role in these changes; however, our research using collared deer shows that predation increases when deer are in poor nutritional condition.

Table 2. *Regional trends in percent yearling does in the doe harvest, 2010-2016.*

Region	5 Year Mean (%)	Long-term Mean (%)	Yearling Doe Percentages					Percent 2016 is off 5-yr. Mean
			2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Northwest Forest†	30	28	27	24	40	28	30	1
Northcentral Forest†	22	27	27	25	13	23	27	22
Northeast Forest†	25	27	32	19	21	27	31	25
Central Forest†	30	29	29	29	25	36	35	18
Central Farmland	31	34	33	32	30	30	29	-7
Lake Michigan Farmland†	35	38	37	38	35	30	29	-17
Western Farmland	33	35	32	30	33	36	32	-2
Southeastern Farmland	35	36	34	39	34	35	31	-13
Southwestern Farmland	28	32	30	27	28	29	29	2

*1997-2016

†Sample size inadequate to interpret

Antler development

Estimates of the percentage of bucks with forked antlers in 2016 were slightly-to-substantially higher than 5-year means in Forest Zone county groups). The largest increase occurred in the Northwest Forest County Group, which was 35% above the 5-year mean and nearly double the yearling forked-antler % observed in 2014. Percentage of fork bucks in Farmland Zone county groups were similar to 5-year averages. The relatively mild 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 winters are reflected in better-than-average antler development in yearling bucks.

Notable differences in antler development continue to occur between heavily forested and farmland regions, and is likely explained by habitat productivity, winter weather, and deer herd densities relative to biological carrying capacity. Less severe winter conditions and distribution of high quality food resources (e.g., agricultural crops) throughout the farmland regions allow for increased carrying capacity and buffer deer herds against winter impacts on spring/summer body conditions and yearling antler development.

Table 3. Trends in antler development of yearling bucks, 2010-2016.

Region	5 Year Mean (%)	Long-term Mean (%)*	% of Yearling Forked Buck in Harvest					Percent 2016 is off 5-yr. Mean
			2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Northwest Forest	58	60	63	41	40	66	78	35
Northcentral Forest	59	58	61	49	53	61	70	19
Northeast Forest	62	62	61	63	58	64	66	6
Central Forest	70	63	71	64	63	73	79	13
Central Farmland	85	87	90	82	80	86	88	3
Lake Michigan Farmland	90	91	93	88	89	89	91	1
Western Farmland	88	88	92	84	87	84	91	4
Southeastern Farmland	92	93	96	89	90	91	92	0
Southwestern Farmland	92	94	96	90	96	91	88	-5

*1997-2016

Acknowledgements

Thanks to DNR personnel and volunteers for collecting deer age and antler data.

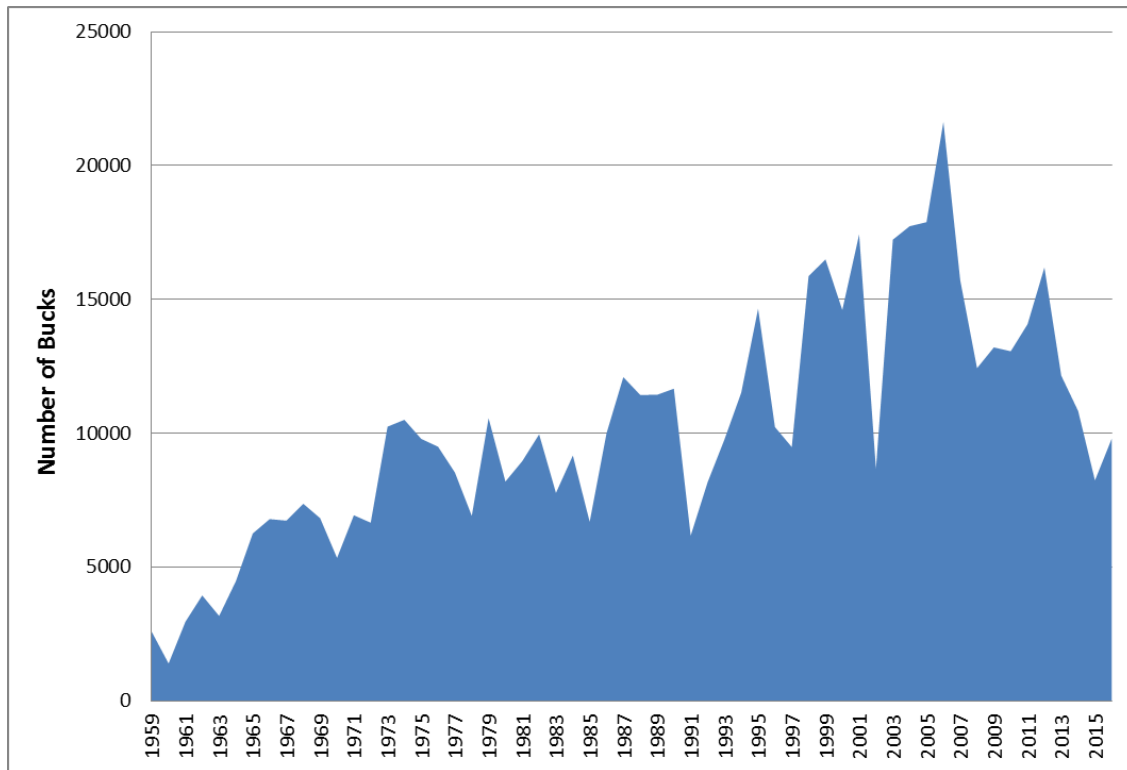


Figure 1. *The number of adult bucks aged, 1959–2016.*

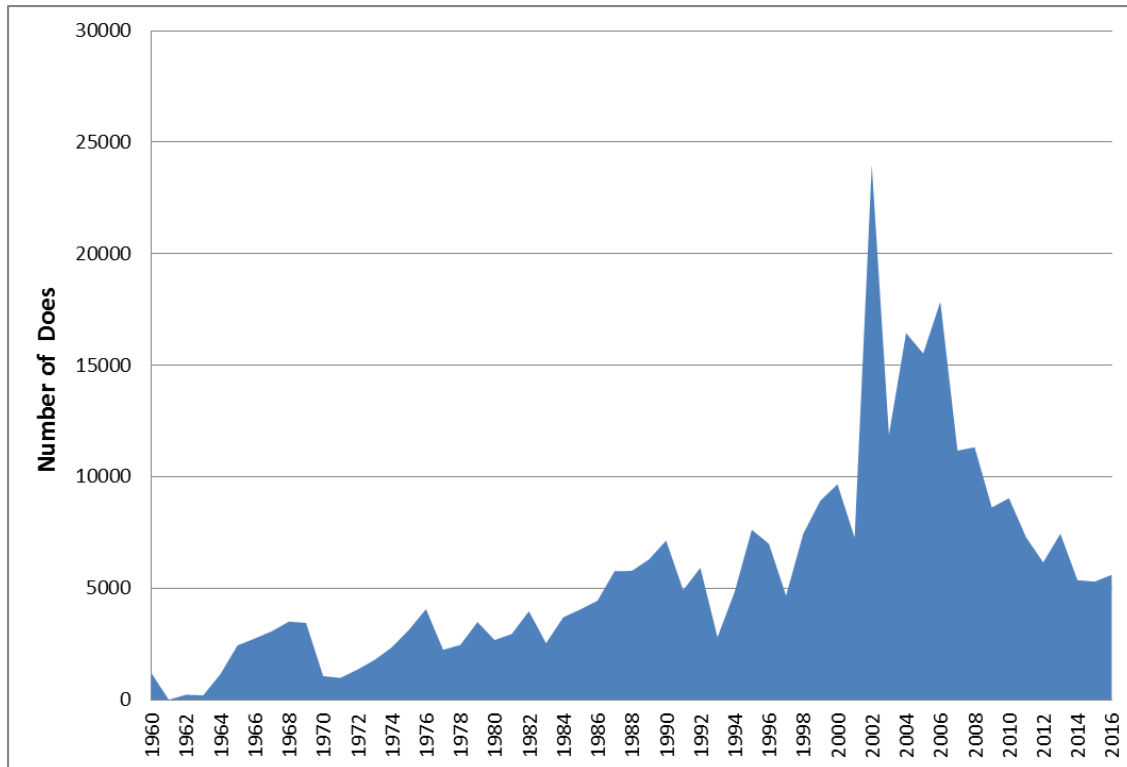


Figure 2. *The number of adult does aged, 1960–2016.*